

THE GATEWAY

volume XCIII number 13 • the official student newspaper at the university of alberta • www.gateway.ualberta.ca • thursday, 16 october, 2003



CANADA'S VERSION OF MOD ROCK Sloan's Chris Murphy rocks out, trendy pins and all, at Red's on Friday night. BRENDAN PRICE

\$1.05 minimum wage hike proposed

KRISTINE OWRAM
News Editor

A proposal made by the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) late last month aims to raise Alberta's minimum wage by \$1.05. Currently, Alberta's is the lowest in the country. Under this proposal, only the territories, British Columbia, and Québec will have minimum wages higher than Alberta.

The initial resolution was brought forward at an AUMA conference held in Calgary on 26 September. According to Mayor of Claresholm and AUMA President Ernie Patterson, 1100 mayors

and councilors from around Alberta "passed this resolution with a good solid vote."

"The reason why this resolution needs to go through is that people living on the current minimum wage cannot make ends meet."

ERNIE PATTERSON,
AUMA PRESIDENT

This proposal, along with all the other resolutions passed at AUMA's Calgary conference, will be sent to the government in November in the hopes that they will be taken into account and eventually made into legislation.

According to Patterson, AUMA passed this resolution in the interests of those earning Alberta's current minimum wage (\$5.90 an hour) and struggling with poverty as a result. "The reason why this resolution needs to go through is that people living on the current minimum wage cannot make ends meet," he said.

PLEASE SEE MINIMUM WAGE • PAGE 4

U of A professor receives award for Arctic research

TINA SAWCHUCK
News Writer

Dr Ian Stirling dreamed of working in the coldest corners of the earth, and when he finally got the chance, he loved it more than he never left. Now, after 40 years of first-class research and mentorship, the polar scientist is receiving a prestigious award for doing what he loves most.

On 25 October, Dr Stirling, an adjunct professor in the University of Alberta's department of biological sciences and a scientist for Environment Canada, will receive the Northern

Science Award from Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs the Honourable Robert Nault in a ceremony to be held on campus.

The award is given annually to recognize lifetime achievement in northern scientific research.

Stirling is extremely modest about the entire affair. "I don't really know," he chuckled, when asked about the significance of the award. "Maybe they're telling you that you should retire or die or something."

Although he always wanted to work in the high Arctic, positions were scarce for undergraduate students when he

was doing his Bachelor of Science at the University of British Columbia. Instead, he received his PhD in New Zealand, studying seals through the University of Canterbury's Antarctic research program.

He soon moved back to Canada to study population dynamics and behavioural adaptations of polar bears and seals. He currently works in the western Hudson Bay and Beaufort Sea regions.

Stirling's early difficulties in going north influenced his decision to become an adjunct professor in 1979.

PLEASE SEE ARCTIC RESEARCH • PAGE 2

Administration, SU, GSA may unite to fight lack of funding

COSANNA PRESTON
Associate News Editor

The administration is planning to take the tuition battle to new levels this year, approaching the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) and Students' Union to band together with them and confront the provincial government with a unified voice.

The University's administration has received a supporting vote from the GSA and hopes to receive the same support from the SU. The proposal asks students to agree to maximum tuition hikes for the next two years. The three groups would then lobby the provincial government regarding the financial position of the University. They would demonstrate that students and the University are contributing as much as possible and that all parties involved on campus agree that they must get more funding from the government.

"When a large public institution like a university speaks with many voices, the government doesn't hear it, or if they hear it, they choose to stand on the sidelines," said Carl Amrhein, U of A Provost and Vice-President (Academic).

"If we have a unified voice it would be extremely difficult for them to say 'The University is confused about what they want and we are going to wait until they sort it out,'" he said.

"We've got about 23 years of the government not maintaining their core funding to the University. There have been major cuts. There have been many years with small cuts and there have been many years where they have not covered the cost of inflation."

Government funding has been a concern for many years. The most striking figure is the ratio of government funding to tuition dollars. In 1981, the government provided ten

dollars for every one dollar of tuition. Now it provides only \$2.30.

"The source of the problem is not the University wasting money everywhere. It is much more carefully spent than it was 20 years ago," said SU President Mat Brechtel.

"The source of the problem is across the river. For 20 years, we have been getting more students and less money. We've been getting more researchers and less money. There is only so long we can keep that trend up without tuition skyrocketing, class sizes getting bigger, and people getting fired."

"When a large public institution like a university speaks with many voices, the government doesn't hear it, or if they hear it, they choose to stand on the sidelines."

CARL AMRHEIN,
U OF A PROVOST

Katrina Bluetchen, public relations officer for Alberta Learning, was not familiar with the statistics on funding per student.

She stated that overall investment in postsecondary education has increased steadily for the last number of years, but was unsure how the shares were divided. However, she was pleased to see student groups working with the administration.

"We always encourage students to work with their postsecondary institutions on these matters. I guess we'll see what happens. It's interesting," said Bluetchen.

PLEASE SEE TUITION • PAGE 4



ROBIN COLLUM

SEEKING UNITY Provost Carl Amrhein attempts to change the tuition debate.



13 Features or bust! Hitch a ride with Peter H Wackentz, the Gateway's Scottish correspondent, as he dishes on going from E-Town to Alaska on the power of goodwill and pure awesomeness.

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Thursday Sunny, Richard Dreyfus' favorite blonde; High 10, Low -4
Friday Sun and cloud, no substitute for Chrissy Snow; High 17, Low 2
Saturday Cloud and sun, step into the role of Mrs Patrick Duffy; High 16, Low -3
Sunday Sun and cloud, Some star your way to perfect thighs; High 15, Low -4
Source: Environment Canada



From the archives

After being accused of three counts of sexual assault and one count of unlawful confinement, a University of Alberta student was acquitted of all charges. He was allowed to remain on campus during the criminal hearing. It was decided that the student would be allowed to attend class, but would be barred from other activities on campus and would have a number of other restrictions placed upon him. At this time, the University's disciplinary system had recently begun its own investigation into the incidents.

1998

Social Darwinism!

There will be no Gates any more! Today, in government, it's time to settle something called "evolution." It's probably the most overused word in the world. Presumably, I can take it to mean "survival of the fittest." But I heard that at the Gateway to "survival" is the Gateway does not actually support social Darwinism theory.



15 I love goths like fat kids love cheeseburgers. If you also love goths, you'll want to read the interview with goth-core band AFI in today's A&E section. Go!

THE GATEWAY

thursday, 16 october 2003
volume XCII number 13

Published since 21 November, 1910
Circulation 10000
ISSN #0045-356X

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THE GATEWAY is published by the
Gateway Student Journalism Society
(GJSJS), a student-run, autonomous,
apollitical not-for-profit organization,
operating in accordance with the
Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be
a founding member of the
Canadian University Press.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh
computers, Hewlett-Packard Scanjet 3470 and Linux
Alpha-Data flattened scanners, and a Canon CanoScan
FS4000 optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for
layout. Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images,
Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are
burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing
press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of
serif, sans-serif, script, and modern fonts. The Gateway's
games of choice are EVE and The Legend of Zelda: A Link
to the Past.

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Benjamin Tencer, Tim Sawchuk, Nick Wolfe, Matt Fretwell,
Chris Warkless, Dave Morgan, Chris O'Leary.

New centre makes U of A world leader in diabetes research

Part three of a three: a feature on the successes of
Edmonton's diabetes researchers

CARLJIN CRAWSHAW
Associate News Editor

Recognizing the need for further people research in light of the increasing incidence of diabetes, U of A researchers will soon have a state-of-the-art facility in which to advance their understanding and treatment of the disease.

Dr Ray Rajotte, who started the U of A's first islet transplants in the late 1960s, was one of the project's initiators.

"In 2001, I spearheaded it with Dr [Joan] Elliott. We sent in for a CFI [Canadian Foundation for Innovation] grant, and we got \$28.5 million to build a diabetes institute," said Rajotte.

According to Rajotte, the centre will bring a number of researchers together from backgrounds as diverse as medicine, physical education, and public health. The centre will be located on 114 Street and 87 Avenue. Rajotte emphasized that while islet transplantation is "one of the strengths and the flagships" of U of A diabetes research, diabetes research takes many forms on campus.

"We'll bring the people from nutrition, you have people doing cell-signalling, and another very important thing is exercise physiology—these people will be coming over from physical education. And then you have the immunology of diabetes: why do people become diabetic?" explained Rajotte.

Dr James Shapiro, the clinical director of the Islet Transplant Program, was similarly enthusiastic.

"I think it's exciting, and no question about it, our current laboratory space desperately needs renovations. Moving to a new facility for that would be quite terrific," Shapiro said.

"There's still issues outstanding surrounding how we're going to use the space, because there's many people competing for space in that building. We may not have sufficient space for the islet program, but I think we have to wait and see."

Beyond the \$28.5 million grant the institute has received, the Alberta Foundation for Diabetic Research has volunteered to raise ten million dollars for the project as well.

"The construction has started, the drawings are finished, and we hope to have it finished by 2006," Rajotte stated.

Rajotte is adamant that the rising incidence of diabetes in Canada indicates a strong necessity for diabetes research, and that the institute aims not only to treat the disease, but to also find a cure.

Rajotte also explained that diabetes costs the health care system billions of dollars a year, due primarily to the complications that arise from diabetes, rather than the cost of insulin. Nearly forty per cent of diabetes need a kidney transplant, according to Rajotte.

Blindness and cardiovascular problems are also included among the complications of diabetes. Canada's healthcare system is forced to deal with.

"In Canada, Health Canada predicts that by 2004, one in four families is going to be affected by diabetes. And that's both type one and type two," he explained.

"The major reason for that—especially the type two, which is late onset—is our lifestyles: what we eat, obesity, lack of exercise, etcetera. There's a real incidence, especially in young kids, as they don't exercise enough and they eat too much junk food. There's a real problem there."

and attempt to sleep.

Constables approached him and noticed his reaction time was very slow and a strong odor of paint thinner emanated from him. He was arrested and held in University cells until EPS could pick him up.

STUDENT GIVEN A BREAK

On 11 October at about 6:00 a.m., officers found a male student sleeping in his running car near Lister Hall. The male stated he had been drinking and didn't want to drive. He was warned against being in car and control of motor vehicle while intoxicated, and was directed to sleep at his friend's residence.

"Under only slightly different circumstances this fellow could have been charged with a criminal offence," said Grace Berry from Community and Crime Prevention Services at Campus Security. "He definitely made the right decision not to drive home, but the night could have turned out very differently."

Berry points out that Parking Services and Campus Security offers a Steer Clear Parking Permit that you can keep in your vehicle. If you park in lots L, T, Windsor or Stadium from 10pm to 9am, you can park free.

"It's a good idea to leave it on the dash before you go to the bar," recommends Berry. You can pick up the permits at Campus Security/HQ.

WHITE POWDER EXCITES EVERYONE

On 9 October at about 4:30pm, Edmonton Transit contacted Campus Constables to report that an unknown white powder was found on the seat of

Professor wants Canada to pay more attention to Arctic issues

ARCTIC RESEARCH • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I wanted to create some positions for young Canadian students to do their research and degrees in the Arctic, if that was what they really wanted to do."

He is especially proud of his former female graduate students. All six are practicing marine mammal biologists throughout North America. Three of them also have families.

"When I worked in the Antarctic in 1967, it was against the rules for women to even be there. And that's part of why I always took female students, because I never thought that was right. I have two daughters myself, and I wouldn't want them to face closed doors for reasons other than ability."

Indeed, although Stirling loses practically everything about his job, he finds the success of his graduate students to be very rewarding, seeing them as his "extended family."

He also appreciates the direct impact of his work. "It's not as if we're just doing ivory tower kinds of things for our own entertainment. People are waiting for the results of our studies. They're used right away."

But Stirling would like to see more

Canadians recognize the relevance of northern research. "We're basically an Arctic country, and personally I think the amount of attention we pay to it is just about every way is scandalous."

"We're basically an Arctic country, and personally I think the amount of attention we pay to it is just about every way is scandalous."

**DRIAN STIRLING,
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR,
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

When asked about his hopes for the future, Stirling is more concerned with Canada's international research responsibilities than he is about his own career.

"Canada's very good on words. But when it comes to actually doing things and putting our money where our mouth is and really participating in international polar activities, we've got a long way to go."



STUDYING THE CANADIAN NORTH Biological sciences professor Ian Stirling.

PAIN IN THE...KIDNEY?

On 8 October just past midnight, officers stopped a vehicle on 87 Avenue after it passed slowly through a red light, stopped in the middle of the intersection, and continued on. The vehicle was stopped, and the driver said he was trying to get to the emergency room. He was clearly in a great deal of pain.

Officers helped him into the back of their squad car and transported him to U of A Hospital emergency. Officers returned to the hospital later in the morning to check on the condition of the driver, and it was discovered that he had passed a kidney stone.

EXPLOSIVE CLAIMS

On 7 October at 9:30am, a student reported that she was hit by debris from an explosion near the Varsity Parking lot area. Campus 5-0 contacted Environmental Health and Safety, and a quick investigation revealed that University grounds staff were cleaning out water lines with pressured air. A hose had blown off and scattered gravel and debris in the area.

KNOW YOUR LIMITS

A man has been contacting people in the community claiming there is money outstanding on an unclaimed lottery ticket, and that he is from Revenue Canada. He then requests a bank draft and tells people the RCMP will be by to collect the person and take them to the bank to collect the draft. This is a scam, and if you are approached, please contact EPS immediately.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by Caitlin Crowshaw and Shawn
Benbow

The Alberta Urban
Municipalities
Association has
proposed a \$1.05 hike to
the minimum wage.

Do you think Alberta
needs to increase its
minimum wage?



Brady Magnuson
Pharmacy III

Obviously any increase in minimum wage is great for the public, distributing the money more among citizens rather than big business owners is always a good thing. It's not going to draw the people without jobs right now into jobs, so maybe putting money into that might've been more appropriate, because the unemployed could definitely use a bit more of a boost. I don't think [the prices of goods] would jump up a heck of a lot, as \$1.05 isn't a huge increase, and it's not like you're going to see it in the higher levels of income.



Sara Ilitsky
Science I

I think it is a good idea, because it'll decrease poverty and make people be able to survive on minimum wage a bit better. But there's also the inflation effect that it would have. From my point of view as a part-time university student working, it is a good idea. It might decrease the number of jobs, so that would be a negative effect. I think overall it's probably a good idea not to increase it that much, I'd say increase it a little bit, but not a whole \$1.05.



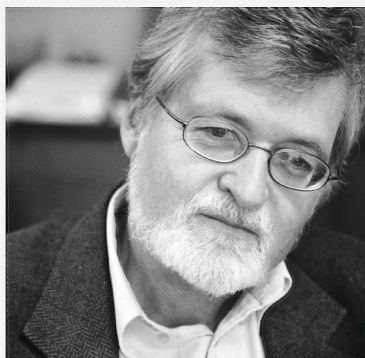
Marc Huot
Mechanical
Engineering II

I think it is a very good idea, because Alberta has the lowest minimum wage of all provinces and higher tuition. So I think that's something that could help out students. It might have an effect on the costs of goods and services, but I don't think it would have that big an effect from \$1.05. If other provinces can afford to pay people more—they have PST which is maybe something we'd have to look at getting—I don't think it'd have a big effect.



Vanessa Reis
Pharmacology III

I think that's an excellent idea, because right now I barely make more than minimum wage, so it would mean an increase for me. It's really difficult to get by on minimum wage right now. People would have a lot more money. I think a lot of people in Alberta's funds are really tight. I think it's an excellent idea.



SHAWN BENBOW

INFLUENCING STUDENTS Dr John Newman, U of A linguistics chair.

Prof hopes to teach students value of human languages

A profile on U of A linguistics prof John Newman

SHAWN BENBOW
Photo Editor

Don't expect to sit back and relax if you enroll in Dr John Newman's new linguistics course on endangered languages.

Beginning next semester, Dr Newman will teach the first course on endangered languages offered at the U of A. During the course, students will get an overview of the world's 6700 languages and see how over half of these languages are in danger of extinction within the next century. Newman also hopes that students will gain an appreciation of the value of human language.

"Speakers [of endangered languages] express a view that their language is a core value of their culture, and without the vehicle of their language, their culture won't be transmitted completely," Newman explains. He says that losing a language involves losing more than just words—cultural and spiritual values are often tied in as well.

As an example, Newman cites the Maori word *tapu*, which is usually taken to mean forbidden, similar to the English word "taboo." However, *tapu* also describes a ceremonial meeting house and holds religious and spiritual connotations. "It's also a word that applies to human excrement and menstrual blood," says Newman. "We don't have a word in English that could apply to a church, cathedral, and human excrement; we tend to keep those apart."

Newman, the chair of the University of Alberta's linguistics department, has been studying languages for most of his life. Prior to his appointment to the U of A in 2002, he spent 16 years teaching at Massey University in New Zealand. Originally from Australia, Newman sheepishly admits that he began studying in the German department at Monash University in Australia because he had a crush on his high school German teacher.

Studying philosophy and mathematics alongside German, Newman discovered he had an interest in formal studies as well as languages. "Linguistics offered a way to combine those interests, as opposed to just having an interest in literature... and it took me a while to understand that."

To help students discover the study

of linguistics, Newman currently teaches a 100-level linguistics course. Besides, he enjoys the challenge of teaching linguistically naive students his subject. "The challenge is to rethink your own ideas, your own discipline, and make it understandable and justified to a new generation," he says. "It's always challenging, rewarding, and it's fun."

Reading an e-mail from a student that describes "the raucous affair that was our class," Newman says you'll never catch him simply lecturing. Often comparing his class to *The Jerry Springer Show*, he explains that he encourages interactivity as he believes that the time a professor spends in a classroom is far too precious for just a monologue. "I think they're paying professors too much to just read from a book," he says.

**"The challenge is to
rethink your own
ideas, your own
discipline, and make
it understandable and
justified to a new
generation."**

DR JOHN NEWMAN,
U OF A LINGUISTICS CHAIR

Always eager to demonstrate to students the value and appeal of linguistics, Newman helped create a new linguistics club when he arrived at the U of A. "I felt there needed to be a way in which the undergraduate students could meet each other outside of class, to share more informally their interests of languages and linguistics," Newman says that he would have been glad to step aside and let the students run the club, but he's already been named an honorary member and has been asked to give a talk this week.

Newman will be presenting a multimedia documentation of a language to show what can be done to help preserve languages. The talk is titled "Endangered Languages and the role of Linguists," and he hopes that students who are interested in languages will attend to see what linguistics is about.

Dr Newman's talk will be on 16 October at 5:30pm in room 2-9 of the Business Building.

I CUP, you CUP, we all CUP for PWRCUP!

Huh? That doesn't even make sense! What's going on? Well, if you were the least bit cool (which WE most certainly are), you'd know it was that time again, time for the PWR CUP conference! Here's the most important stuff:



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Only 1.1% of Albertans earn minimum wage, says gov't

MINIMUM WAGE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"If these people are going to start looking after themselves, they have to be paid properly."

If someone works full time at a minimum wage job in Alberta, they earn approximately \$12 000 a year. An average one-bedroom apartment in Edmonton costs \$593 a month, or \$7100 a year (Calgary is slightly higher, at \$657 a month, or \$7900 a year).

"The market seems to have kicked in at most places, and most entry-level wages are well above minimum wage."

**CHRIS CHODAN,
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER,
ALBERTA HUMAN RESOURCES AND
EMPLOYMENT**

In other words, well over half of most minimum wage earners' income goes to rent in Alberta's two major cities, making it difficult to scrape together enough to purchase essential items such as food and clothing.

According to Patterson, 47 per cent of people earning minimum wage are over 25. However, this is an issue many students face as well. "On the students' end of it, with tuition fees and the cost of living going up, it's just as difficult for them to live off minimum wage as someone over the age of 25," he explained.

Although the provincial government hasn't seen the official resolution yet, Alberta Human Resources and Employment public affairs officer Chris Chodan said a minimum wage



PLEASE SIR, CAN I HAVE SOME MORE? \$5.90 doesn't go a long way anymore, says AUMA President Ernie Patterson.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MATT FREISNER AND CORY WANLESS

hike in Alberta isn't necessary.

"As it is, the average entry-level wage in an urban setting is \$7.43 and in a rural setting is \$7.02," he explained.

"Only 1.1 per cent of Albertans actually earn minimum wage, so it's really a moot point. In other words, we don't think it would have a great deal of effect either way."

According to Chodan, Alberta's minimum wage is actually sixth in the country after taking taxes into account,

and 39.9 per cent of minimum wage earners in the province have not completed high school.

"The basic thing is that 1.1 per cent of Albertans are not really a big concern," he said. "The market seems to have kicked in at most places, and most entry-level wages are well above minimum wage."

Patterson maintained that a minimum wage hike would not only benefit municipal residents, but Alberta's cities

as well. "We hope this proposal will be accepted because one of the things that helps us as municipalities is, as the minimum wage goes up, we'll have less to do with subsidizing people with low incomes. Whether or not it will really happen is another question though. We don't exactly have a history here of raising the minimum wage quickly."

AUMA aims to advocate local government interests to the provincial government and other organizations.

SU debating tuition proposal

TUITION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The SU is still debating the issue, but Brechtel says he sees two benefits to the situation. First, he believes in the power of a united voice and its potential effect on the government.

Second, the current lobbying strategy forces the SU to lobby the government and the administration for money to go to tuition.

This proposal predetermines how much of the University's money comes from tuition and leaves the SU with one very focused battle on the provincial government.

However, Brechtel sees where students may have problems with the proposal. He is concerned largely with fear and doubt from the student population: doubt that if the annual tuition debates do not continue the administration will become complacent, and fear that the provincial government will encourage the University to be quiet and stifle the conflict, thereby completely removing attention from the issue of skyrocketing tuition.

Amrhein warns that if the SU does not follow suit with the GSA or if the government refuses to listen to the University's appeal, he will be forced to resolve the financial situation by whatever means necessary.

"If we cannot speak with a single voice, the administration still has its overriding obligation to ensure the quality of the educational experience. I hope to do in a collegial, cooperative fashion, but I will do it anyway I can. That's why I came here. I'm going to do my job."



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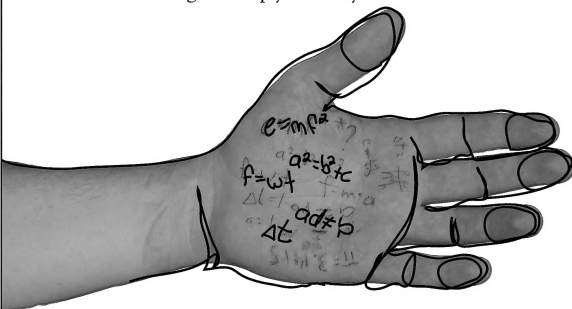
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SU/Administration coalition might work

IN A PRESENTATION to Students' Council last Tuesday, Provost Carl Amrhein and Vice-President (Finance and Administration) Phyllis Clark said the Alberta government would be more likely to pay attention to their pleas for postsecondary funding if the SU would join forces with the administration and the Graduate Students' Association to present a unified lobbying front.

As the need for more government funding is one of the few areas these three governing bodies can agree on, this appears to be an excellent idea at first glance. However, there is a catch. In return, Council will have to agree to maximum tuition hikes for undergraduate students for the next two years.

The administration's theory behind this proposal is that the government will be far more likely to give Alberta's postsecondary institutions the additional funding they need if the students of the most powerful of these institutions, the University of Alberta, are able to go to them and say, "We've given all we're able to give. Now it's your turn."

In this aspect of his proposal, Amrhein is probably right. There are two main sources of funding for Alberta's postsecondary institutions: students and the government. The University is in a serious deficit situation, and will continue to be, even with maximum tuition hikes, unless the government gives them more funding. If they raise tuition as much as is permitted by law and they still have to force departments to make cutbacks like they have this year, the government just might lend a sympathetic ear.

So following this logic, Students' Council may be well advised to agree to Amrhein's proposal. But what if the government's chances are we're facing maximum tuition hikes for the next two years anyway, so we might as well make the best of it. However, Amrhein's proposal was lacking in one area.

Students need an absolute guarantee from the administration that, if their governmental lobbying is successful and they manage to secure several million dollars in grants like they are hoping to, there will be a tuition freeze, or at least smaller hikes. The last thing students need is to sacrifice themselves for future years, only to find that, yes, the administration received more funding from the government and are in a much better financial situation, but students are still facing maximum tuition hikes with no end in sight.

Before Council makes any tuition decision on behalf of all U of A undergraduates (over 30,000 people) for the next two years, students need a guarantee from both the SU and the administration that they (or at least future students) will benefit from this in some noticeable financial way. Being able to stop cutbacks to facilities and departments is great and will definitely benefit students, but most won't be happy unless their own financial situations are improved as a result.

If Council can secure this guarantee from the administration, they should go ahead and make whatever decision they feel most benefits the students they represent (and their successors will represent in coming years). They might as well try to make the best of an already bad situation. But if Council cannot secure this guarantee, they should be careful. The last thing students need is to sacrifice even more than they already have for nothing.

KRISTINE OWRAM
News Editor

Ethics of cat-napping

IMAGINE THAT: WHILE WALKING through your neighborhood, a university-aged woman spots you, pats you on the head and talks to you in soothing tones.

You follow her for half a block, after which you are swooped up into strange arms, and fed in a strange house. For a few days things are great, until it dawns on you that you haven't seen your family for weeks. By then it's too late to leave.

Now, imagine that the cat-napper is your roommate, that your kitchen perpetually reeks of cat shit, that you may get evicted, and that your roommate selfishly refuse to take the cat to the pound to be reunited with its rightful owners. Welcome to my life.

CATHIE CRAWSHAW
Associate News Editor

LETTERS

Arafat editorial cartoon upsets student group

We are deeply troubled by the prejudicial message communicated in your editorial cartoon of 2 October ("Israel contemplates assassinating Arafat").

On 11 September, 2003, the Israeli government passed a resolution declaring that "Yasser Arafat is a complete obstacle to any process of reconciliation between Israel and the Palestinians. Israel will work to remove this obstacle in a manner, and at a time, of its choosing."

The resolution was adopted one day after the cold-blooded terrorist murder of seven Israeli civilians at a Jerusalem café and of eight off-duty soldiers at a bus station near Tel Aviv. Israel held Arafat responsible by virtue of his active encouragement of continued terrorism against Israel combined with his refusal to do anything to stop the terror (as he is obliged to do under the international "road map" for peace).

Despite the subsequent intimation by some Israeli officials that the government should not rule out the possibility of killing Arafat one day, it was universally understood—even by Israel's staunchest international critics—that the notion of "removing" Arafat was limited to perhaps expelling him from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. To this date it has never been Israel's intent to assassinate Arafat.

Given these facts, we find your editorial cartoon misleading at best and inflammatory at worst. Indeed, the inclusion of a young boy wearing a skullcap emblazoned with the Star of David is doubly troubling, inasmuch as it could be perceived as active incitement against all Jews—those who support the policies of the current Israeli government and those who oppose it alike.

We appreciate that the purpose of an editorial cartoon is to express a particular political viewpoint, and have no desire to stifle freedom of expression. However, freedom of expression must never be equated with the propagation of hatred. We trust that the Gateway will use far better judgment in its selection of future editorial cartoons.

JONATHAN LIVERKANT
President
Jewish Students' Association

Homelessness feature misleading

As a U of A alumnus who has spent the previous two years in Waterloo, I must point out some rather misleading items that appeared in last Tuesday's feature ("The Spot: Targeting Homelessness in Kitchener-Waterloo"; 7 October).

First, the fashion in which the article is written suggests that Kitchener-Waterloo is one big super-city. While K-W is indeed a large metropolitan area, it must be noted that Kitchener and Waterloo are separate cities, each with their own separately elected civic governments. This is important, as the homelessness and poverty rate in the City of Waterloo (population 86,543 as of 2001) may differ quite dramatically.



This leads to the second major problem with the article. The author quotes homeless statistics from all of Canada and the province of Ontario, but neglects the statistics listed for the Kitchener metropolitan area. According to the Statistics Canada Collective Dwellings report, the number of people living in homeless shelters in 2001 for the Kitchener metropolitan area was 155 people, a tiny fraction of Ontario's homeless. Another problem is that the data for the Kitchener metropolitan area includes the Cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, along with the Townships of Woolwich and North Dumfries. Since the latter three areas don't seem to be mentioned in the article, it is unclear whether this is considered by the author. The homeless numbers listed in the Collective Dwellings report do not break down the number of people living in homeless shelters into separate numbers for Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Woolwich and North Dumfries.

The last and most glaring omission from the feature is the lack of any statement from Kitchener or Waterloo Regional Police regarding "The Spot" or any of the other matters addressed in the article. Further, business owners in downtown Kitchener were not given the opportunity to comment on the urban decay that has been affecting Kitchener for years. If this narrow focus wasn't enough, the author mentions little about those homeless people who aren't "young people" or those who don't frequent "The Spot."

While homelessness continues to be a huge problem in major urban areas, the author's narrow and one-sided focus, along with a misunderstanding and/or omission of key facts about the K-W region did little to shed any real light on the problems faced by K-W or any potential solutions.

PIETER ROZENHART
BSc, U of A 2001
MMath, UW 2003

Shame on you and your sexy eyes, Gateway

Two weeks ago, the women of the

Delta Gamma Women's Fraternity were hard at work raising money for our philanthropy, Aid to the Blind & Service for Sight. We've been doing it for years. One of the major ways we get people on campus to contribute is through our "Most Beautiful Eyes" contest. We ask people to vote for the most beautiful eyes by dropping change into the jar that show their favourite eyes (pasted on the jar). Every cent of that money goes to worthy charities like the CNIB and the University's United Way Campaign.

When we asked for a little help in spreading the word by putting a little blurb in the Gateway informing and encouraging staff and students to support our fundraiser, what did you do? You ripped off our idea...

I don't care that you thieves our idea. In fact, I thought it was pretty damn funny. I would have laughed a lot harder and a lot longer if you, a) hadn't pissed me off by not telling anyone how to help us support the aforementioned charities in your half page ad titled "Eye See You," (2 October), b) didn't rip us off for personal gain (CD prizes for the winners of your "contest"), and c) had put anywhere in the little blurb that you did include in the issue where our booths were located, or why we were there. Anyone who was able to find that. Anybody blurb didn't know that they could make a donation to the CNIB and the United Way.

Would it really have cost you anything to say "Hey, even though we like making fun of frats, these guys are doing something to help society by raising money for important organizations. Let's help them out for others. Here's where and how to do it."

What's your problem? Are you anti-altruists who hate the blind? You didn't just mock us with the "sexy eyes contest," you slighted some very worthwhile charitable organizations.

Because of your need to belittle us and our efforts, the United Way and the CNIB both lost out on an opportunity to acquire some much needed financial support. Shame on you.

If you think you're better than us and want to make fun of us, fine. I don't care. We're all used to that. But, I think you must certainly need

to make it up to the CNIB and the United Way. I challenge you to raise \$50 for each of those charities. Now, if you wanted to make those donations in our name, all the better. If not, well, then it's the breaks. At least they get the money.

DIMA NAR
Delta Gamma Alumnus

Hurray for newspapers!

Thank you for your article Mr. Hudema ("Same-sex opposition sounding more and more like petty excuses from the past," 7 October). I was the rainbow-face-painted girl standing next to you on the legislature steps at that protest. You brought up points that others haven't even thought of yet, you opened more people's eyes, and you did so with intelligence and grace, not name calling and belittlement. You are an amazing activist, and an inspiration both in words and action. Thank you.

I would also like to say thank you to the Gateway because in the last few weeks I have seen a great improvement in the Campus Crime Beat section in relation to residence. By this single action you have won back a lot of my respect. Keep it up. The students here are very appreciative of the unbiased reports.

Then on a more ridiculous note: thanks to Megan Simko for finally stopping dancing around the issue and teasing so much and actually coming out and getting to it in her strip Anna.

A letter of accolades to you all.

AMANDA HOSTLAND
Arts V

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author; to be considered for publication.

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• or by e-mail desperance@bgce.ca.

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Women-only space is not just about equality



KIRSTEN
MCDREA

Put aside all the bitter banter over the pros and cons of a women-only space for just a minute. Even within feminism, this is an extremely contentious issue, and the fact is there are about a million very good arguments both for and against. However, one in particular just doesn't hold any water: namely, that a women-only space is discriminatory because there are no men-only spaces.

Oh, please. Sure, in tit-for-tat mentality, creating a space that bars men (the women-only space permits all self-identified women, as well as transgendered people) is discriminatory, because equality is based on exact equivalents, right?

Wrong. To simplistically label a women-only space as reverse sexism denies the facts and statistics that prove that women are underrepresented in society economically, politically, and socially. There are reasons why we do not have heterosexual out-reach groups, non-Aboriginal offices, or non-International Students Centres. Our society is highly segregated along gender, class, and racial lines, and when I look around I see men-only spaces everywhere.

No, you say? Perhaps you didn't

get your invitation to the last G8 meeting. Put your Margaret Thatcher back in your pants and name one other female world leader. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo? Good. Can you name two? Are you wondering who Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is? She's the president of the Philippines. That's okay, I had to look her name up to make sure I got it right.

Now, let's move from one type of world leader to another: in corporate boardrooms, 96 per cent of top executives are white males. Does that sound like a men-only space to you?

To simplistically label a women-only space as reverse sexism denies the facts and statistics that prove that women are underrepresented in society economically, politically, and socially.

We live in a world where men direct 96 per cent of top-grossing Hollywood movies, write 91 per cent, are the cinematographers of 99 per cent, and edit 88 per cent. 80-90 per cent of Hollywood guilds are white, and of the 44 board members of the top five Hollywood talent agencies, only four are women and none are of colour. This is getting embarrassing.

Name a woman who has won an Oscar for directing. If you can't, that's because there aren't any. Only two

female directors have ever been nominated. Women receive 6 per cent of writing awards, and even 85 per cent of the make-up awards have gone to men. According to the Guerrilla Girls website, no woman has ever won an Oscar for direction, cinematography, or sound, only eight per cent of commercial directors are women, and 71 per cent of commercial production companies don't hire female directors. There sure isn't much room for women's voices, is there?

Men not only have more tools for the creation of mass culture in their hands, but are also more likely to be rewarded for what they create. It seems clear that an essential step in the empowerment of women is the valorizing of their experiences. And while I have major problems with the creation of a women-only space on campus, the thought of being in a room where nothing but women's voices are heard thrills me.

Feminism and sexism are about gender and power relations, and we aren't going to get anywhere without women and men fighting, loving, and dialoguing side by side. But it's not like once women go into that room they never come out. Instead of focusing on who's being left out in the hall, focus on what's being created inside. For many men, this may be the first time in their lives they've ever tangibly felt excluded. But I know from sitting in the women-only space that for many women, it's the first time they've ever really felt included. And if you don't believe me, stop by the Women's Centre and see for yourself.

U of A students have nothing to bitch about



ROSS
MOROZ

possess a PhD, he or she may someday. There was the odd class was taught by a real live PhD, but those instructors were quick to point out that they were U of A professors doing some moonlighting. They seemed a little embarrassed to be there.

The worst of the Grant MacEwan experience was registration. To all of you who have commented on the insipidity that is Beartracks, I have one thing to say: manual registration. That's right, when I started at G-Mac, there was no web or phone registration; the only way to register was in person. This meant showing up a week before classes, getting in a really long line, waiting two hours to get to the one person inputting registrations just to be told that every class you picked is full, then getting a new list of classes shoved at you. After that ordeal, you'd have to plan a new schedule on the spot, find out that in the five minutes it took you to redraw your schedule all the classes you had picked this time had magically filled up, too. Think of

that next time you get booted off Beartracks.

G-Mac students were also a tad disappointing. To those of you who delight in belittling the American Eagle-sized look of a disturbingly large portion of the University's student body, I should point out that the typical G-Mac student sported a fake tan, streaks, jeans named after a type of fuel, \$35 flip flops, an \$85 hair cut, immaculately plucked eyebrows, coloured contacts and flavoured lip gloss. And that's just the guys. It wasn't an institution of higher learning; it was the Abercrombie and Fitch fall fashion show.

So to everyone who whines about the high tuition, ineffectual student government, incoherent professors, and rambling first-time Gateway contributors here at U of A, continue to whine. But promise that next time you feel the urge to complain you will keep in mind that, while things could be better here, they could also be a whole lot worse.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN Signs you're at a bad summer camp

- 10 Arts & Crafts consists of fixing holes in the canoes using paste, macaroni, and yarn.
- 9 You sing a camp song with the lyrics: "Kumbaya, my Dark Lord, Kumbaya."
- 8 Coin-operatedouthouses.
- 7 They take away the bunk-bed ladders at night.
- 6 Team building activity #1: Run like hell from psycho in hockey mask.
- 5 Activities are restricted to Bible study, butter churning, and barn-building bees.
- 4 Campfire story sounds suspiciously like the plot of Ernest Goes to Camp.
- 3 They won't give you any save to ease your shackle sores.
- 2 Sloppy Joes served for supper the day after some kid named Joe went missing.
- 1 The name: Camp Wannafuckyabutt.

Learn English to teach in English



IVA
CHEUNG

When my prof attempted to lure us with pizza to a social event meant to allow our class to get to know one another, a few of us couldn't decline the free meal and showed up. We went around the room introducing ourselves, and halfway through the intros, a few Chinese grad students trickled in looking flustered. The prof looked at one of them and said, "Sorry, I didn't catch your name?"

"Hello!" was the student's response. "What's your name?"

"Ah, name. Family name, Huang," the student stated.

"But... is that how you're known informally?"

The student, paused, crumpled his brow and repeated, "Family name, Huang!"

"But, is that what your friends call you?"

"Ah... yes, yes! Family name, Huang."

"Okay," the instructor looked unconvinced. "How do you spell that?"

"Spelling?" muttered the student. "Family name, Huang."

Now, I'm no stranger to the fact that learning a second language isn't easy, and finding yourself in a strange country probably doesn't help. But if you're going to attend an English-speaking university in a graduate capacity, where you have both research and teaching obligations, is being able to function in English really that much to ask?

I felt sorry for that student who evidently didn't understand the simplest spoken English, but I also had pity for

his supervisor who would somehow have to guide him through a thesis without being able to communicate with him. Both of them, however, will perhaps suffer less than those people this grad student has to TA. We all know how a single incomprehensible instructor can ruin a subject for life.

What's more, these students aren't really forced into a position where they have to learn English at all. There are so many new graduate students from China that they just stick together and converse in Chinese in social settings.

Moreover, there's no evidence that standardized test scores truly indicate any kind of aptitude. How does knowing that "worship" is to "sacrifice" as "prediction" is to "angry" make you a better grad student?

How is it that they make it through the admissions process? The problem stems from universities' reliance on standardized tests, which don't test aptitude so much as how well you can write them. I've heard testimonials that many students in China train for years to write a perfect GRE or TOEFL exam. My buddy sat on the admissions committee at the University of Chicago and claims that applications from Chinese students are utterly indistinguishable from anyone else's. The university admitted two students with virtually identical applications to discover that while one of them spoke fluent English, the other didn't under-

stand a word.

Average GRE Verbal Component scores from Chinese students far exceed anything native English speakers usually achieve, further evidence that test scores rarely correlate with how well a student understands English. Part of the issue is the disparity between comprehension of written versus spoken language. In an academic setting, where you have to teach others, the latter is arguably just as important than the former, and none of the standardized tests account for spoken aptitude at all.

Moreover, there's no evidence that standardized test scores truly indicate any kind of aptitude. How does knowing that "worship" is to "sacrifice" as "prediction" is to "angry" make you a better grad student? There are numerous studies suggesting that standardized tests are essentially useless, both for the student as well as the admissions boards, which get almost no information from test scores.

The solution is to rid the admissions process of standardized testing replace it with interviews. Subsidize the prospective students, foreign or otherwise, to fly in and give a short talk. It may cost money, but hiring graduate students is an investment for a department. If poorly played, it could cost much more than a plane ticket in wasted time, money, and patience.

I'm not trying to dump on immigrants here—if my parents hadn't come to Canada and struggled with language problems of their own, I would likely be in exactly the same position as these students. I think it's fantastic that we're getting more international students with different experiences and perspectives to enrich the community. But I also believe it's their responsibility to recognize that if they can't speak the language, they're putting much more than their own careers at stake.

Bush's yarn-spinning too little, too late



ADAM
ROZENHART

We've all been subjected to letter campaigns at some point in our lives, whether it's the irritating daily spam e-mails that promise certain doom, or those pervasive chain letters of yore promising riches if you would just forward a copy on to a minimum of twenty other suckers. Hell, I once killed a small child with cancer of the rectum simply because I didn't pass his letter on to my blind neighbour.

But a letter campaign under the guise of government PR on behalf of the US military certainly pushes the envelope, then douses the very same envelope in gasoline, and burns it in some back alley barrel labeled "ruthlessness"; over the weekend, the Bush administration launched a PR campaign geared towards promoting the positives of the US occupation of Iraq.

This questionable campaign involves sending letters, allegedly signed by soldiers, to newspapers across the US extolling the successes of the War on Terror. The letters state that the lives of Iraqi citizens have been bettered thanks to US soldiers. They go on to state that the "majority of the city (in this case, Kirkuk) has welcomed our presence with open arms."

Now let's ignore the fact that sol-

"I'm not exactly sure what Bush expects to accomplish with this latest endeavour. Is he hoping people will read the newspaper, stumble across a soldier's letter and nod solemnly to themselves, mumbling, 'Oh yes, well of course. I should have realized how swimmingly things were going over there?'"

diers who said they signed a form letter they agreed with had no idea that the form letters would be published in newspapers all across their home country in their names. Let's further ignore that these form letters in no way promise wealth and success if they're passed on to twenty or more people. The issue at hand is that the United States government thinks it can successfully pass this propagandized garbage off as nothing more than a PR campaign.

Governments engage in PR campaigns all the time. Our own government's department of health warns us on a daily basis that smoking kills. A few years ago, the Alberta government launched a PR campaign begging citizens to wear their seatbelts, and showing them what could result if they decided to disobey the law. The Bush administration's campaign to show citizens that things in Iraq aren't as bad as journalists have been saying, however, is nothing more than propaganda. I'd like to think that most people can make their own judgements, based on the information provided by TV and newspaper report, as to the success of the occupation. CNN is supposed to be com-

pletely unbiased, after all.

I'm not exactly sure what Bush expects to accomplish with this latest endeavour. Is he hoping people will read the newspaper, stumble across a soldier's letter and nod solemnly to themselves, mumbling, "Oh yes, well of course. I should have realized how swimmingly things were going over there?" Sorry, Bush. This isn't PR, and there's too much legwork to do to call it propaganda. This is damage control, and it's too little too late.

Hopefully the US government and other governments can learn from this whole Iraq thing. If you're going to try to run a propaganda campaign, you need to start early, and you need to prevent almost 100 of your soldiers from being killed during peace time.

Doubtless, however, the Bush administration will continue its letter campaign, while Bush's lackeys spin tales of success and victory in Iraq saying, however, is nothing more than propaganda. We need news networks keeping us. Failing that, Bush could start a letter campaign promising riches if you can convince twenty or more people that this PR campaign might actually trick people into thinking things in Iraq are a-okay.

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Bicycle licensing will protect riders



DAVID GIBSON

Edmonton City Council has recently proposed a new law that would charge bicycle riders a licensing fee similar to cars and other motor vehicles. The proposed law would require bikers under the age of twelve to pay a one-time fee in exchange for a license plate or sticker they would put on their bike. Advocates for the policy say it will help pay for the upkeep of the city's bike trails and fund the building of additional paths. They also say the licenses could be used to target reckless riders such as those who fail to yield to pedestrians or ride without helmets.

City Councillor Stephen Mandel, arguing in favour of the fee, stated that people are already paying for transportation such as buses, cars, and taxis. He also argued that people who do not make use of the service are currently paying for it. Critics say that the licensing will cost more to implement than it will bring in and worry it will be an additional strain on underprivileged families.

Bike enthusiasts might bemoan the additional costs, saying that people ride bikes because they are a cheaper alternative to driving. But most bikers I know ride for other reasons. They ride because bikes are environmentally friendly and a good form of exercise. In fact after buying all the essentials—the bike, a helmet, a firm lock, and those little plastic noisemakers that rub against the spokes and make dirtbike



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: NICK WESSE

LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU Cyclists put themselves in danger every day.

sounds—it's still cheaper to pick up a bus pass for a few months. Buses also have the added bonus of being warm and cozy during those fun Alberta winters. Serious cyclists are dedicated and aren't going to be phased by a small fee.

I have my own reason for supporting bike licensing. I live downtown, so every time I get on my bike I put my life in my hands, or rather in the hands of a stressed clock-puncher in a one-ton crash-protected metal shell. Downtown roads are filled with commuters either heading home or to work; they're usually half asleep or suffering brain death after a long workday. They're bored by the monotony of driving down a road they know so well they could drive it blindfolded while being savaged by a steroid-fueled raccoon. They don't give a damn about cyclists; we just don't pose a threat. I feel unsafe just being a pedestrian, let alone riding along the side of the road while angry drivers accuse me of slowing down traffic. It's

just plain dangerous.

The lack of concern drivers show for cyclists is why the city pushed for tougher helmet laws. It was because getting cyclists to strap padding to their heads was cheaper and easier than training drivers to pay attention and not hit people, just like building paths for cyclists to get around on is easier than finding a way to make commuters more attentive. Ticketing unlicensed cyclists for additional money, as they did with helmet-less bikers, would be another way for the city to make money for bike paths.

It is unlikely completely alternate routes through downtown will be made for bikers, but whatever small changes that can be made will be appreciated, such as the recently-added paths that follow the above-ground LRT tracks. Additional bike lanes on some streets are all that is required. I will gladly pay for any change that will lower the chances of my becoming a mass of blood and hair smeared across someone's grill.

Make your next bus ride annoying for everyone



BROOKES MERRITT

Public transit is loathsome. Most of us have had to endure it at one time or another: as a student going to school, a drone going to work, or, like me, as a victim of circumstance without vehicle. We're forced to travel in a tightly-packed tube, ripe with the sweet aroma of body odour that emanates from the grim-looking strangers at our sides. The rides are monotonously slow, and the mood of the driver questionable. There are, however, behaviours that can be developed to improve the quality of our commute.

The salvation of every commuter lies just beyond the understanding of the enigma that is public transit: it is inherently antisocial. Bus rides involve a plethora of people with something to say, and none with the gumption to converse. It's why most of us put our bag on the empty seat beside us, why we look out the window when someone sits there, and why we generally look as unapproachable as humnally possible. Most of us.

The next time you're riding the roach-coach, think of the select few who refuse to follow the flock. They fight the call of quietude, and I dare say they reap the benefits. Such defiance makes a long and boring ride interesting, transforming it into an experimental journey of abandon and glee.

So sit next to the person who looks the most uncomfortable, the person who looks like they wish to be left alone. Strike up a conversation. Ask them if they have the time. Worst-case scenario: you've found a friend, and your destination is a few stops closer. Best-case, they rebuff your advance, forcing you to go to work on your own. How do you go to work on your own?

Make faces at children; sit uncomfortably close to others; lean on them; utter benign comments about people that board while gently elbowing the person closest to you in friendly secrecy, sneeze and bless yourself; passionately pick your nose; sing to the tune of someone else's walkman.

There is a buffet of gestures and dialogues at your disposal, all of which invite others to share in your suffering, or at least to ensure that their ride is made less enjoyable than their own. Such selfishness is rewarded with a true feeling of power—you are among the few who refuse to be silenced by the social mores that keep us from piercing each other's bubbles of personal space. You will quickly learn the joy that can be taken from a once-dreaded routine.

The feeling is infectious. It can be spread to other passengers. Sometimes it can even break the tension that keeps us all so very private, and introduce all riders to a social outlet they never knew existed. Sometimes.

Most times, however, the feeling just helps to add a laugh into your day. It helps you to smile when you finally reach your destination. Ultimately, you can step off the bus, the train, or the subway, feeling like you got there just a little bit quicker.

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STUDENTS' UNION PAGE

OCTOBER 16 2003

YOUR SU FEES EXPLAINED

Beside the monstrously huge (and ever growing) tuition amount on your bill for coming here every year, is an amount (\$60.49 if you are here full-time, \$40.94 if you are not) that goes to the Students' Union. Now, that may not be a lot of money compared to tuition, but that does not make it unimportant.

The fees every undergraduate student pays to the Students' Union each year are divided into two categories: membership fees and dedicated fees.

Membership fees are the Base Students' Union Fee and the Capital Enhancement Fund. Funds generated by the Base Fee account for 19% of the \$8.8 million budget of the Students' Union. They are used by the organization to operate our various student services, run annual Executive and Council elections, undertake political advocacy initiatives and run a host of programming activities for students at the University of Alberta. The Capital Enhancement Fund is used to purchase capital equipment for upgrades to the Students' Union Building and the various businesses operated by the Students' Union.

Dedicated fees are the ten fees that were created through student votes in campus-wide referenda; each is designed to be used for a specific purpose. In addition, they cannot be eliminated or raised or lowered by more than 15% except through another referendum. Some of these are administered internally by the Students' Union, but the majority are controlled by independent groups on campus.

Access Fund

This is a last resort bursary program for students who are in serious financial trouble and have exhausted all other options. The fund is overseen by the Students' Union and there is the option for students to opt out of this fee.

Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund

This goes to support our varsity teams in hosting tournaments and travel to competitions outside of the Canada West Conference, which are not covered by the Athletics & Recreation fee included in your Non-instructional Fees. The fund is overseen by the University Athletics Board, a group that is independent of the Students' Union.

Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund

This goes to support campus recreation initiatives, new programs, and the purchase of new intramural equipment, which are not covered by the Athletics & Recreation fee paid to the University. CREF is overseen by Campus Recreation.

Alberta Public Interest Research Group Fund

This goes to support public interest research, education, and action initiatives undertaken by students. The fund is overseen by the Alberta Public Interest Research Group, a body independent of the Students' Union that has been incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta. Students do have the option to opt out of this fee.

Gateway Student Journalism Fund

This goes to support the publishing and distribution of the Gateway, the U of A's official student newspaper that you are holding right now. The fund is overseen by the Gateway Student Journalism Society, a body independent of the Students' Union that has been incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta.

First Alberta Campus Radio Association Fund

This goes to support the operations of CJSR, the University of Alberta's campus-community radio station. The fund is overseen by the First Alberta Campus Radio Association, a body independent of the Students' Union that has been incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta.

Student Involvement Endowment Fund

This goes to supporting annual merit-based Scholarships and Student Awards given by the Students' Union to deserving students based on their contributions to the campus community and the community at large.

Student Legal Services Fund

This supports the operations of Student Legal Services, which is comprised largely of University of Alberta law students, who provide free legal advice and paralegal representation to Edmonton's low-income community and to students.

World University Service of Canada Fund

This goes to support the living expenses of four refugee students each year and throughout the course of their University degree. It is overseen by the Student Refugee Board, which is independent of the Students' Union.

Eugene L. Brody Fund

This fund is operated by the Students' Union and annually donates funds to worthwhile charities on behalf of the Students' Union and students on campus.

Want to know more? Contact Tyler Botten, Vice President (Operations and Finance) of the Students' Union, at (780) 492-4236 or by e-mail at vp.operations@su.ualberta.ca.

YOUR 2003/2004 SU EXECUTIVE

492.4236

President: **Mat Brechtel**president@su.ualberta.caVice-President Academic: **Janet Lo**vp.academic@su.ualberta.caVice-President External: **Chris Samuel**vp.external@su.ualberta.caVice-President Operations & Finance: **Tyler Botten**vp.finance@su.ualberta.caVice-President Student Life: **Jadene Mah**vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca

UPCOMING SU EVENTS:

Oct. 17: **Bill 43 Event**

@ Quad, 12:00

Oct. 16: **Kid Koala**

@ Powerplant, with dj p-love, dj jester and more, tix @ Ticketmaster

Oct. 18: **Tupelo Honey**

@ Powerplant, with Wisconsin and Willisbong

Oct. 20: **Movie Night in Dewey's**

Edward Norton Night: Death to Smoochy, The Score

Oct. 24: **Danny Michel with Nathan Wiley**

@ Myer Horowitz Theatre

Oct. 25: **The Bears**

@ Powerplant, with Pilate; tix @ Ticketmaster

Nov. 1: **Halloween show**

@ Powerplant, — details TBA

Nov. 1-2: **"Green is Gold" Eco-conference**

@ SUB

Nov. 8: **Broken Social Scene**

@ Powerplant; with guests Stars and Jason Collett, tix @ Ticketmaster

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STUDENTS' UNION

STUDENTS' UNION FEE BREAKDOWN	per Fall or Winter Term		per Spring or Summer Term
	Full-Time	Part-Time	
Fee			
Base Students' Union Fee	\$28.41	\$15.04	\$19.51
*Access Fund	\$14.14	\$14.14	\$6.21
Golden Bears & Pandas Legacy Fund	\$3.36	\$3.36	n/a
Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund	\$3.13	\$3.13	\$3.13
*Alberta Public Interest Research Group	\$2.71	\$1.35	n/a
Gateway Student Journalism Society	\$2.67	\$1.34	n/a
Capital Enhancement Fund	\$2.42	n/a	n/a
First Alberta Campus Radio Association	\$1.68	\$0.61	n/a
Student Involvement Endowment Fund	\$0.67	\$0.67	n/a
Student Legal Services of Edmonton	\$0.58	\$0.58	
World University Service of Canada	\$0.38	\$0.38	
Eugene L. Brody Fund	\$0.34	\$0.34	
Total Referendum (Dedicated) Fees	\$32.08	\$25.90	\$9.34
Total Students' Union Operational Fees	\$28.41	\$15.04	\$19.51
Total Student Fees per Term	\$60.49	\$40.94	\$28.85

* Students may opt out of these fees

SU website: www.su.ualberta.ca | SU webboard: <http://webboard.su.ualberta.ca> | Students' Council website: www.su.ualberta.ca/council

SU Info Listserv: Email majordomo@su.ualberta.ca and put "subscribe su-info" in the body of the email

THE PEP RALLY

Soccer

If you're looking for a little European football action, both of our soccer teams are kicking it old school at home this weekend at Foote Field.

First the mighty, mighty **Pandas** (6-2-1) look to smoke something from BC as they take on UBC Saturday and Victoria on Sunday. Both games start at high noon. After they win, the scary **Bears** (7-1-1) take the field to teach a lesson to the same teams, UBC on Saturday and Victoria on Sunday, at 2:15pm.

Hockey

Once again the boys of winter, our undefeated **Bears** (2-0-0), are in action this weekend. They play a little home-and-home series with the dastardly Dinos of Cowtown. The Golden Bears went 6-0 against the Dinos last year, so there really isn't any doubt about the outcome of this one, is there?

But since they have to play the games away, the first game is at 7pm Friday down in Hickville, while the return is back in our frozen palace of radness, Clare Drake Arena, at 7:30pm on Saturday. Since no one wants to go to Calgary, you can catch Friday's game on **CISR FM88** as called by Bob Stauffer and everyone's favorite Sunshine Boy Scott Zerr.

Rugby

The four-time defending national champion **Pandas**, who are an absolutely freakin' amazing 29-1-1 since their inception four years ago, are in Victoria this weekend for the conference championships. They'll play the hosts Friday at 3pm, then stomp Lethbridge Saturday at noon, and steal the thunder from UBC at 4pm the same day.

As a side bonus, after they win the gold on Sunday at 3pm, they return October 31-November 1 to host the CIS championships. As another side bonus, my cousins play on this team and I met half of the team when I roomed with them this summer, so I'll get to bask in their reflective glory!

Football

Those loveable winners the **Bears** are back again, this time taking on the evil Saskatchewan Huskies. The Bears are once again led into glorious gridiron battle by man-beast running back Jarred Winkler (912 yards rushing, 7 TDs) and kicker Mark "Ol' Reliable" Wojcickowsky (68pts) as they seek revenge for a last-minute 13-10 loss at Foote Field, which incidentally was their last loss before completely obliterating four straight teams.

The game starts at 1:30pm Saturday, but if you're stuck at home studying for midterms, say Bob Stauffer will be calling the game with world-renowned Kevin Karius, with pregame starting at 1:15pm on **CISR FM88**.

Field Hockey

In conference tournament action, those loveable, huggable Pandas (2-6-2) make their way to Victoria to take a bite out of something other than bamboo shoots at the third Canada West tournament of the year.

Random Phatness

The Eskies play Friday, so I might have to sneak in a radio with my booze at Commonwealth so I can listen to the hockey Bears win while I watch the Eskis win.

I'm sure the Oilers play sometime this weekend too, and they had better pick it up, because damn, two shutouts in a row? One of them to Calgary? Seriously, Calgary is easier to score on than Boutet's mom.

"SOX" DAVE BERRY
Sports Propagandist

Football Bears pick up playoff scent

Win over Dinos gives Alberta (4-2) first four-game win streak since 1984

BRYAN LEE
Sports Staff

Even after a week's rest, the Bears football team had no trouble picking up right where they left off, extending their winning streak to four games with a 39-22 win over the Calgary Dinos.

Despite a botched opening kickoff that turned into a fumble and a quick Dinos score, the team still won the turnover battles and controlled field position. And as Bears mascot Guba continued to beat on a stuffed Barney toy representing a Dino, so did the Bears in the first half, leading 26-14 at halftime.

"It's a huge win to bounce back when they beat us in the first week of the season (a heart-breaking 31-30 loss). And with Manitoba beating SFU [35-28 on Friday], this pretty much puts us in playoffs," explained punt returner Kendall Jeske.

The Bears (4-2) are now in sole possession of second place in the Canada West. The top four teams in the conference qualify for the playoffs. Should the Bears qualify, it will end a nine-year post-season drought.

Nothing new emerged performance-wise, as Bears star running back Jarred Winkler had another solid ground game with 176 yards, and was also the leading receiver after he caught a shovel pass and stretched it into a 58-yard gain. Jeske had another impressive game returning punts, including a 60-yard return for a touchdown, and another thrilling 71-yard return that was called back due to a penalty.

On defence, safety Jason Milne had another first quarter interception, and linebacker David Lowry continues to lead the team in tackles. After ten against the Dinos, Lowry was named the CIS Defensive Player of the Week.

"It was a big advantage to keep our defence off the field, keep marching the ball, and to get good field position throughout. The coaches worked on it hard throughout the week and we just went out and executed," said rookie lineman Ryan Dubyk, expanding on the offensive line's dominant performance.

Being the last home game of the season, it was also the last career home game for veteran



LIKE A BAG OF GROCERIES Bears lineman Darren Balderson (46) sacks Dinos QB Charles Guedo (14).

kicker Mark Wojcickowsky and defensive back Landon White. Wojcickowsky had a busy night, booting six field goals. With 68 points on the season, he has moved into fourth all-time in Bears scoring.

"I don't really think about the numbers. I prefer our 4-2 record to any of that," the modest Wojcickowsky said.

"I told the players that after the game, we still haven't played our best game," head coach Jerry Friesen cautioned, noting that his team needs to fine-tune its passing game for veteran

sure-handed Bears receiving core had an off night against the Dinos, dropping three end zone passes that would have made the game more lopsided.

The Bears face a much bigger challenge this Saturday, as they visit the 7-0 Saskatchewan Huskies. The Huskies handed Alberta their last loss in early September, a 13-10 contest that Saskatchewan won in the final minute.

The Saturday match is an afternoon affair, starting at 1:30pm. It can be heard live on 88.5FM CJSR.

Bears hockey season begins with routine sweep of Regina

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

Before a sparse yet enthusiastic crowd at Clare Drake Arena on Friday, the Bears finally got their season off on the right foot with a 4-0 victory over the University of Regina Cougars.

"Preseason is over and this is the time to start the regular season, and we are glad to get it going," said Head Coach Bob Daum after the win.

Taking advantage of a disgruntled Regina squad, the Bears were able to hold the Cougars to 19 shots during the game, including a spell of more than ten minutes without a Regina shot during the second period, despite a Cougar man-advantage during the stretch. Lack of Regina firepower paved the way for Bears netminder Clayton Pold to secure his school-record 15th career shutout for the Bears.

The Cougars shots were kept to a minimum by the Bears' dominating play along the boards in what ended up becoming a physical affair. With the Bears enjoying a four-goal lead in the third, the game disintegrated into acts of chippy retribution. "You don't have any choice in this league, but you have to keep your composure because you can't fight," said Daum of his team's discipline late in the game. "It's something that should be changed, but that's not to promote barbaric hockey. It just gives the players an opportunity to protect themselves."

From the outset, the Bears were quicker and displayed more skill than the Cougars, keeping most of the play in Regina's end, as evidenced by the Bears ability to pepper the Cougar net with 50 shots. Veteran forward Kris Knoblauch

opened with the first goal of the season, later adding another joined by freshman left winger Richard Hamula and first year defenceman Harlan Anderson rounding out the scoring.

An apparent upper body injury caused Cougar starting goaltender Ron Mountain to leave the game after making 29 saves on 33 shots. Backup Shaun Lee made an additional 17 shots in relief, keeping out all that he faced.

Going into the game, the Bears had injuries of their own to some regular players from last year, giving opportunity for newbies to step in. Rookie forward Hamula was given more ice time due to the injuries of veteran centre Tyler Shybnuka (shoulder) and rookie defenceman Ryan Stephile (jaw). "Any chance you get to contribute you feel more like a part of the team," said Hamula, who was able to pot his

first goal for the Bears, and added another on Saturday night.

The Bears continued their winning ways into Saturday's match against the Cougars, as they closed out the two-game set with a 7-5 victory. Centre Kevin Marsh led the way with two goals, while defenceman/team captain Blair St Martin, centre Justin Wallin, forward Brent Robertson, rookie forward Ben Thomson and Hamula each chipped in goals for the win. With the sweep of the weekend series, the Bears ran their undefeated streak against the Regina Cougars to 30 games.

Next up, this weekend the Golden Bears play their rivals from the south, the University of Calgary Dinos. The home-and-home extravaganza begins in Calgary on Friday at 7pm and can be heard live on 88.5FM CJSR, and concludes at Clare Drake Saturday night at 7:30pm.



STACKED PADS Golden Bear left winger Tim Krymska (21) is stopped by the Regina netminder.

SHAWN BENDOW

NCAA volleyball teams too much for CIS

Bears 2-2 record not enough as NCAA wins Can-Am challenge 10-6

RYAN OHASHI
Sports Staff

After suffering two tough losses to the highly ranked Pepperdine Waves and Long Beach State 49ers, the Golden Bears concluded the sixth annual Husky Energy Can-Am Volleyball Challenge Saturday with a 3-1 victory over last NCAA Championship's runner-up Brigham Young University Cougars. The Bears rallied behind the gritty play of Tournament All Stars power Nicolas Cundy (16 kills, two blocks) and power Aaron Schulha who, along with co-captain middle Leo Carroll, combined for 23 kills and five service aces in the match.

After the match, Schulha was optimistic of his team's tournament finish. "We have a lot of talent on this team and a lot of depth, and in the first three matches we were all pretty disappointed with the way we played, especially in our own gym," said Schulha.

"So to come out tonight in the first set and get a lead, to keep that and win the first two sets was big for us, and though we came down a little bit in the third but it was a really great match overall."

The win gave the Bears a 2-2 record for the tournament but was too little too late to help the CIS teams, as the American NCAA took the Can-Am challenge for only the second time with a final score of ten matches to six. Joining the Bears for the CIS included the Manitoba Bisons, the Saskatchewan Huskies, and the Montréal Carabins. Representing the NCAA were the top-seeded Waves, the 49ers, the UC Irvine Anteaters, and BYU. Despite being a pre-season event for the teams, the level of competition and play remained extremely high, and crowds were treated to some of the best volleyball North America has to offer.

Pepperdine was the top US team in the tournament, posting a 4-0 record

against their CIS counterparts. Former US National team and now Pepperdine head coach Mary Dunphy was pleased with the level of competition for his team. "It's preseason, but the lights are on, there are people in the stands, and this is a great tournament," said Dunphy. "We love coming here, and not just because we won, but we really respect what they do for volleyball here at the University of Alberta. We're honoured to be here."

Pepperdine outside hitter Fred Winters, also a member of Canada's national program, was also selected as a tournament All-Star. "It's good for us because it is a good crowd and it's a little bit hostile. It's good for us to play against other good teams," said Winters after Friday's feature match 3-1 win over Alberta. "It's probably the best trip of the year for us."

The Bears will have the next weekend off before traveling to Montréal and Laval on 22 and 26 October.



ON YOUR KNEES BOYS Two: Bears attempt to dig this Pepperdine strike during Friday's match.

LEANNETONG

Ailing soccer Pandas ready to go

Team awaits UBC and Victoria this weekend

JOEL CHURY
Sports Editor

With the turkey long since digested and the leftover stuffing all but a vague refrigerator memory, the Pandas soccer team (6-2-1) comes off of their bye weekend to return to Foote Field to play against the UBC Thunderbirds (2-2) and the Victoria Vikes (6-2-1) this weekend. The matches give the team the opportunity to gain some ground on the conference table, as their BC adversaries are the only teams keeping the Pandas from first place.

For some of the Pandas, this weekend offered a well-deserved breather, as the team has been working through injuries which hampered them in their last matches, including a loss to the much weaker Lethbridge Pronghorns (3-5-2) two weeks ago during the Pandas southern road trip. For seven players on the team, however, last weekend did not afford them time off as they were competing at club nationals. Of the seven, striker Lindsay Nelson, midfielders Dena Raimundo, Tracy Beechey, and Kristie Tokunaga were all recuperating from injuries sustained in CIS competition. "On the one hand they weren't getting as much rest and healing time as everyone else. But on the other side, they all did get back into some form of playing," said Pandas head coach Kelly Vandergriff. "I anticipate having all of those players, with the exception of [Beechey], back in the lineup."

The return of Nelson helps the Pandas regain some strength up front, as the striker's injury, coupled with fellow injured striker Cheryl Cormack, left the Pandas scoring attack pretty depleted in their last match against

Lethbridge, where they were shut out 1-0. "Lindsay will hopefully be able to contribute into our attack, which is kind of gone south over the past few weekends," said Vandergriff. "It's basically been non-existent."

Cormack should also be able to contribute more than she did two weeks ago, as she wasn't one of the seven playing with their club teams over Thanksgiving. While Nelson wasn't able to play against Lethbridge, Cormack was required to contribute some playing time, despite her not feeling 100 per cent. "Last weekend, Cheryl played some minutes basically because she had to," said Vandergriff. "She wasn't able to play like Cheryl can play, and that was evident, but she got some well-needed time off and looked good during training [Tuesday], and hopefully after the rest of the week she'll be able to get game fit and get ready to go."

This weekend will give the Pandas a chance to regain their early season form, and brings them back to their home field after a three-week Foote Field layoff. "Things kind of took a bit of a turn in terms of our injuries, and in terms of our overall performance in the last few weeks," said Vandergriff. "So I think this is good timing for us to get these two top quality teams. I think the players are ready to go, and I know the coaching staff is looking forward to this weekend, so it'll be a good test for us."

Both of the matches will be played at noon, with UBC playing the Pandas on Saturday and the Vikes arriving on Sunday. The Golden Bears soccer team joins the Pandas in the weekend's festivities, with UBC and Victoria's men's teams playing the Bears at 2:15pm.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 24, 2003

My name is Erin, and my father is a Golf-a-holic



ERIN
LOXAM

Sports
Commentary

Addiction and obsession are two very dangerous things. Addiction to Pac Man can waste hours of study time and ruin your social life. An obsession about Ms Pac Man may make you follow her home from work and stare into her house with your long-range binoculars, climaxing with that horrible moment when you are discovered and labeled the neighbourhood pervert. But the worst circumstance is a combination of addiction and obsession, and that's the essence of my dad's relationship to golf.

He won't admit it, even when we caught him last winter sneaking onto the Victoria golf course. "I don't know why they already closed the course, there's only a foot of snow," he claimed.

At some point, he tasted said golf, and liked it. Needing his fix, he kept going back for more. Our garage is



ADDICT Bill Murray also afflicted.

"There's only one thing more frustrating than playing *Hungry Hungry Hippos* with three-year-olds and not getting any marbles, and that's using a skinny stick to hit a tiny ball the length of a four football fields, which is specifically ridden with obstacles."

Now full of the gadgets, our computer is bookmarked to www.pgatour.com, and he can tell you which golf store has their putters on sale for 25 per cent off this week.

It's not like he's the only one—there are tons of men and women playing this sport. But I don't care about any of them. Just my dad.

What happened to my dear father? I spent my childhood on the sidelines of football and rugby games. Granted, running and tackling aren't exactly appropriate for most men in their mid-50s (aging pro-wrestling legend Hulk Hogan being an obvious exception). In his later years, he's taken his competitive fire (an inherent Loxam gene) and directed it onto the most competitive leisure activity he could find outside of board games.

The problem in all this is that I'm my father's daughter. Though I'm not bald, male or six foot two, much to my chagrin, virtually every piece of his genetic material was passed onto me. So when will my golf obsession begin?

I do follow Canada's sweetheart, Mike Weir, as he strives to be the golfer of the year. But beyond being the sports fan extraordinaire that I am, I watch most sports on TV, and that doesn't exactly mean I like to play them.

Father dear even tried to force the addiction on me at an early age, but with a mishap with a thrown club at the driving range I've hesitated to return.

There's something innately frustrating about golf that makes me shudder. There's only one thing more frustrating than playing *Hungry Hungry Hippos* with three-year-olds and not getting any marbles, and that's using a skinny stick to hit a tiny ball the length of a four football fields, which is specifically ridden with obstacles. Ever imitated Jacques Yves Cousteau to retrieve a ball from the water? How about pitching a deeply embedded ball from the beach that is the sandtrap? Or, in strictly golf terms, putting from the rough? Not only that, but once you've finally reached the hole in the ground no bigger than a cup, you have to do it again, 17 more times all the while lugging your 50lb bag. Where's that bastard caddy when you need him?

To be honest though, my disdain over my father's obsession with golf could solely be based on the fact that through the endless rounds he's now getting pretty darned good at it. For the first time in my life, I have to get off the "natural sports ability" train, and actually work at a sport to compete with the old man.

Golf doesn't afford me the ability to pass the blame (or the ball) onto a teammate, for if I suck, it's all me. And there's nothing I can do besides tossing my wedge into the water—for another Cousteau wannabe to find—to relieve myself from the undying source of aggravation that is golf.



BRIS 132

OUTMATCHED A weak Griffin defence could do nothing to stop the Pandas.

Griffins got no game against hoop Pandas

CHIRS O'LEARY
Sports Staff

Have you ever been to a basketball game that was over in ten minutes? The Pandas played the Grant Macdonald Griffins in the Main Gym Sunday night, in a game that looked more like something you'd play on your PS2 or Xbox, than a match between two postsecondary level teams.

The Panda's completely controlled from the tip, opening up with a 20-point lead in the first ten minutes

of the game and not looking back. After exhausting every option they had and trying to compete, the Griffins found themselves down 47-18 at the end of the first half. The only noteworthy aspect to the Griffins' performance was their three-point shooting in the second half. Unfortunately for Grant Macdonald, while their three-point shots were falling, everything else was falling for the Pandas, as they relentlessly pressured, trapped and ran the Griffins out of the gym to the tune of a 83-46 final.

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vs. UBC, 2:15 p.m.
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vs. Victoria, 2:15 p.m.
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REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

As you know, Dr. Pasuto's first term as Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will end on June 30, 2004, therefore, a Review Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations. Dr. Pasuto has indicated that he intends to seek a second term in office.

At this point in its deliberations, the Review Committee is interested in your opinions about the state of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences under the leadership of the current Dean. The Committee believes it is critical that all faculty, staff and students in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences have the opportunity to convey their views to the Committee. More specifically, the Committee is interested in the following:

- 1) **Leadership** – ability to provide a vision and direction for the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and achieve the strategic goals of the Faculty;
- 2) **Management** – fairness, balance and effectiveness in decision-making affecting the direction of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; effectiveness at setting priorities and dealing with issues;
- 3) **Personnel Management** – issues dealing with the recruitment and retention of staff, as well as the administration of all personnel within Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences;
- 4) **Contributions** – the contributions of the Dean within the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the University, the Community and Professional Field;
- 5) **Development** – the success of the Faculty in achieving its goals with resources available;
- 6) **Communications** – the effectiveness of both internal and external communications;
- 7) **Other matters.**

If you wish to respond to the above issues, would you please forward your comments/advice no later than November 10 to my attention at the address below:

Carl Amrhein
Provost and Vice-President (Academic) & Committee Chair
210 University Hall
Edmonton AB T6G 2P9 OR
E-Mail: provost@ualberta.ca

In addition, an open "Public Forum" with the Dean will be scheduled in the near future. At the Forum, the Dean will discuss his vision of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for the next five years. Please watch for details. Your views are important to us and I encourage you to share your thoughts with the committee. Should you prefer to submit your comments to another committee member please feel free to do so. Please contact any member of the Dean Review Committee or myself for additional information. Thank you for your assistance.

Dean Review Committee Contact Information

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The information during this consultation is collected under the authority of Section 18 and Section 22 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIP/PIPA). For purposes of the Access to Information Act, questions regarding this information should be addressed to the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), 210 University Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2P9, Edmonton, AB T6G 2P9.

GOING NORTH ON

GOODWILL



WORDS AND PHOTOS:
PETER H MACKENZIE

MY FRIEND JONNO AND I WERE LOOKING FOR A LIFT TWO AND A HALF HOURS UP THE ROAD TO PRINCE GEORGE, BC, when a twelfth grade student from the Williams Lake high school pulled over and offered us a ride in his little white hatchback—the smallest car I'd seen this side of the Atlantic. He said that he was heading three quarters of an hour up the road. There was no town there, just his family's house, but we were welcome to the lift if we wanted it.

something worse?

But there was no pitch, no point on which they sought to persuade us, just a normal family on a normal evening having us as their guests, happy to meet new people since they live in such an isolated spot. After we met Geoff's parents and sister, we discovered Geoff's mom had hitchhiked all over Europe in her student days, and was completely comfortable with her son picking us up. She spoke of the random hospitality she had received during her travels, and was glad of the chance to extend the same

revolved around acquiring a vehicle. But as our ambitions grew, our bank balances shrunk to the point where a car was not an option. However, the North was calling our names, and we were not going to ignore it. Lack of funds wasn't going to keep us in Edmonton, but how could we get to the North?

Then one night in RATT, we met a German exchange student named Greg. Greg had hitchhiked all over Europe and was dead certain that it was the best way to travel. Captivated by his stories of long rides with interesting people, I was inspired. A few weeks after speaking with Greg, I read an article by a Montreal hitchhiker in the Gateway. My motivation to hitchhike became even stronger.

Of course some people told us not to try it. "Don't die hitchhiking" were the last words of a friend before he headed home after term. Others told us that we were crazy, that the only people who pick up hitchhikers in Canada are serial killers and psychopaths; nutcases who like eating Scottish and Australian folk for dinner.

But others said that it would be fine. Their logic: unfriendly people think it's dangerous, therefore only friendly people, who assume the best of people, pick up hitchhikers.

Though our friends worried for us, the possibility of people-eating chauffeurs was no contest against what promised to be a cheap and adventurous traveling option. A hitchhiker need not worry about money, navigation and plotting of routes; he gets by on good will. To get to our destination, all Jonno and I needed to do was appeal to the generosity of drivers, a task we didn't expect to be too difficult as we were foreigners, and in Canada everyone loves a foreign accent.

THE FIRST TIME

Before we set off northwards, we tried a practice run. One Thursday evening after classes, we tried our thumbs at hitchhiking from Edmonton to Calgary, en route to skiing in Banff.

We headed as far south on Calgary Trail as Edmonton Transit would take us, walked a suitable distance from the junction and there we were—standing on the banks of this torrential river of cars, the setting sun to our backs, with only our thumbs and two pieces of cardboard reading

WE HEADED AS FAR SOUTH ON CALGARY TRAIL AS EDMONTON TRANSIT WOULD TAKE US, WALKED A SUITABLE DISTANCE FROM THE JUNCTION AND THERE WE WERE—STANDING ON THE BANKS OF THIS TORRENTIAL RIVER OF CARS, THE SETTING SUN TO OUR BACKS, WITH ONLY OUR THUMBS AND TWO PIECES OF CARDBOARD READING "CALGARY" AND "WE'RE STUDENTS" TO GET US, ALL THE WAY THERE.

"Maybe you'll get a sympathy ride if you're hitchhiking from the middle of nowhere," he suggested. Seemed like a good idea to us—we'd not rejected any lifts so far, and rugged northern BC was no place to start. We introduced ourselves, threw our bags in the back and jumped in and headed north.

Our driver, Geoff, was 18 years old, a high school senior, a connoisseur of car stereo equipment and a first-timer in picking up hitchhikers. He had a desire to travel, and was training to be a goldsmith ("A trade which is always in demand, and which I can take anywhere," he said). The 45-minute drive flew by, but as we approached his home, he pulled into the driveway and parked in front of the house. "We had better be getting on—we're hoping to make it to Prince George tonight," we suggested. But he was insistent—he had never picked up hitchhikers before and wanted to introduce us to his parents so they wouldn't be annoyed at him for picking up crazy people. As we were herded inside I whispered to Jonno, "Watch for it—there's a pitch coming here somewhere." Was it politics, religion, or

welcome to us years later. They had a barbeque for us, and, gathered outside around the fire, we eagerly swapped stories. They told us of their love for wakeboarding and waterskiing, and of their new boat ("It's a shame you're not a few weeks later or we'd have taken you out on the lake with us—can you come back on your way south?"). We ended up staying the night. And, a few weeks later, we were welcomed on our return to the friendliest home in McLeese Lake, BC.

THE IDEA



Jonno and I were U of A exchange students, him an Australian, and I a Scot. We had met through an international students' event, skied together a few times and soon decided that we wanted to travel together after the semester was over. As we talked, our plans grew, our ambitions flourished and we both felt a strong desire to see or do something which few others saw or did welling up inside of us—traveling to the far north. Our original plan





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

"CALGARY" and "WE'RE STUDENTS" to get us all the way there. Three minutes and about eight million cars passed, the looks from drivers varying from suspicious to strongly disapproving. Doubts came thick and fast—were we just being silly? Would we be back on the bus in a couple of hours? But our doubts ceased when two Nova Scotia rig-workers pulled over in a brand new Ford Focus. For ten dollars towards fuel costs and a four-minute wait, we had a ride to Calgary and a conversation that taught us high salaries can be had on the rigs for the price of a few missing fingers.

Our backup plan of bus tickets was out. When it came to our upcoming trip, it had to be hitchhiking.

SERIAL KILLERS AND PSYCHOPATHS



Something we wondered a lot about was who would pick us up. We expected males, aged 18–35; unsettled individuals who drive cheap cars/trucks. When we got on the road, there were plenty of rides from men connected with oil-rig work and seasonal work. Although a few of our rides were people who had never picked up hitchhikers before, it seemed most had hitchhiked themselves at some point, either through necessity or just for traveling. "It used to be much more common," was an often heard phrase.

But then there were days when the expectation of a typical "ride" was totally confounded. One example was when we were coming south from Whitehorse, Yukon. Our first lift could not have been a day under 65 years old: a female charity worker who said she loved to see hitchhikers as it told her that summer was here. Our second that day was an RCMP officer—in his squad car—who we had thought was going to tell us off but actually gave us a lift 45 minutes in the right direction. And our third ride was a 50- to 60-year-old First Nations truck driver who helped himself to beer (offering some to us as well) on his drive home. Other surprising lifts came from a mother and daughter in their minivan, a university lecturer and a single blonde female in a sports car.

After six weeks of solid hitchhiking, it turned out that those who pick people up are as varied as you can imagine. But they all had one thing in common: the plethora of local and specific knowledge they wanted to pass on to us foreigners. We received tips about seasonal work all over Western Canada, were pointed in the direction of free hot showers, given advice as to where we could camp for free, and were told all about the local culture in terms of work and "recreation" (the sport of "car jumping" being the most memorable).

But the best thing about hitchhiking in the far North was the stories we heard. Man alive, what stories. Bear stories came thick and fast (especially in the Yukon), stories of ice roads, of

hunting in Alaska, of dog-sledding, of fishing, of truck driving accidents, of where the names of towns came from, of helicopter accidents at wilderness oil-rigs. Everyone had their top three stories, and our own repertoire grew as our trip moved on.

REAL MOTIVATION



But aside from the lure of stories, adventure, and excitement, we believed there were greater reasons behind our decision to hitchhike. Long before we hit the road, Jonno had once said to me, "everyone always says everything is much more dangerous than it is." Our trip was born out of a refusal to be scared and a refusal to believe that no one would reach out and offer us help out of goodwill and charity. Maybe because of our spiritual beliefs (I am a Christian and Jonno is a strong believer in Karma), we wanted a society where if you see someone, your first thought is not "are they dangerous?" but rather "can I help them?" By hitchhiking, we both decided that we wanted to live in a society where hitchhiking worked, and so for a month we stepped out in faith that it would.

Though idealistic, we weren't completely naive; we knew that out there, there may have been somebody who would seek to harm us. I think the most poignant example of hitchhiking's danger that we came across was the story told to us by our last lift. A French Canadian with the filthiest language Jonno and I had ever heard, our driver made two or three trips across Canada in his van every year, and nearly always picked up any hitchhikers he saw. He told us of one he picked up a few years ago, who he took about 1000 miles along the Trans-Canada Highway, all along the way buying him meals and cigarettes. Just as he was about to drop him off, this lad tried to rob him. Handily enough, our man had a monkey wrench under his chair, which he swiftly reached for and smashed across the thief's face. Needless to say, he got no money. We asked our driver why he was still picking up hitchhikers after the incident. He replied, "Assholes are everywhere. You don't have to go to school to be one, it just comes naturally. I always knew they existed. I'm just not going to write off all hitchhikers because of one asshole."

So it is with so much of society; we refuse to believe that there is bad out there, and then when we come across it we believe that it's everywhere. We need to start seeing a balance. Everyone you know is free to let you down, to fail you, to betray you, to leave you alone. Eventually you can be sure someone will. But does that mean that we no longer trust, no longer hope and no longer reach out and offer people a chance?

We chose to believe that traveling thousands of miles "relying solely on people's goodwill and kindness," as Jonno put it, was possible. We wanted to prove for ourselves that it could be done. So we did. Instead of asking why we should hitchhike, why people should be kind and generous, we asked, why not?

TIPS FOR THE WOULD-BE HITCHHIKER

- ☛ The first rule of hitchhiking is you must have enough water and food for as long as you could feasibly be stuck. We carried a camping stove and various noodles and soups.
- ☛ The rule everyone will tell you is not to travel alone. I've broken this one a lot, and found the conversations all the more rewarding in a one-on-one situation.
- ☛ Another good rule would be not to hitchhike after dark, though again, I have broken it.
- ☛ Although we never turned down a ride, it must be noted that occasionally people who offer lifts may be dangerous, and by the same token, some hitchhikers may be dangerous too. Use a bit of discretion when getting lifts. If your ride wants to indulge in any substances unbecoming of a good driver, offer to drive—who knows, you may end up having saved his life.
- ☛ Other than that, all I can say is that basically there is less to it than you might imagine. Route planning is all very well and good, but we certainly changed our route a few times because of offers to different and interesting places. Planning for hostels and places to stay seemed like a great idea, but we never did—our \$40 eBay tent took care of all that.
- ☛ As for attracting rides, at the start of the trip we'd hold a sign for where we were going, keep our thumbs proudly extended, and wear big "I'm-not-dangerous" smiles on our faces. But by the end of our trip, I'd just sit on the side of the road in a Wal-Mart folding chair reading a book—if you're at the side of a road in the middle of nowhere, it's pretty obvious what you're up to, thumb or no thumb.



AFI inspires tattoos, weddings and salivating in their growing fan base

AFI

with guests
Northlands Agricore
Wednesday, 15 October

HEATHER ADLER
Arts & Entertainment Editor

With their ghoulish makeup and hard-hitting music, AFI seems like the least likely of bands to bring together a healthy, thriving community of kids; however, the band says they've recently noticed their fanbase has morphed into something along those lines in an altogether unexpected way.

"Some lady claimed that I was so cute she wanted to cut me up, put me in her suitcase and take me home. Later on she said, 'some day I'm going to lick you,' so I avoided her for the rest of the night," laughs AFI (A Fire Inside) guitarist Jade Puget, as he explains one of his most recent encounters with a more than slightly disturbing fanatic.

Puget and his band of aggressive, whiplash-tempo goths have been pumping out graveyard classics since the band formed in 1991. While their original creations sounded like simple skate punk, the band has since evolved into a critically-acclaimed, genre-bending group of misfits, and their latest release, *Sing the Sorrow*, has brought the band from cult-status obscurity into the mainstream.

The shift from being mid-sized favorites in their home state of California to a full-on big-name band has brought with it a few surprises for the boys in black. "There's a lot of people that try to be weird just to get your attention, or to be cool, or to be funny, but it often just comes across as being creepy," Puget remarks.

Along with a little more attention from the

peculiar public, Puget says just being a part of the glitz of Hollywood has been a bit of an adjustment. "The most surreal thing we've done so far was the MTV Music Awards, because we were in a room full of all the Britney Spears of the world, who we are light years away from. But it was still really nice to be recognized."



PRETTY Why said eyeliner is only for girls?

The band picked up an MTV2 award—one of only two voted on by the fans—and Puget says the award meant more because "it was a strong testament to the AFI community." It's the loyal fan base that he claims has carried the band into their prime, and now Puget sees the community they've developed as being just as important as the music itself.

"There's a community

of people that are self-perpetuating that surround the band and now the community grows even without us. We're the forum that brings them together, but collectively they have their own interaction," he explains.

Puget has seen hordes of his vampy minions getting tattoos of the AFI logo, and although he considers it "a huge honour and the highest form of flattery," he now believes it goes beyond just showing dedication to the band. "Getting that tattoo doesn't just say 'I think this band is cool,' it also shows membership in this club we started. AFI is a way of interacting with like-minded people."

People have become so involved with one another through the group that Puget admits even he is surprised by some of the things their message boards and gatherings have spawned. "As weird and grotesque as it sounds, we've had people meet on our message board and get married. It's kind of weird and very 21st century, but it shows how it's gone beyond the band," he laughs with a proud lilt in his voice.

Puget says he knew their latest release was their finest work to date, but he never thought his makeup-wearing clan of sombre songwriters would ever garner the type of attention that's recently been bestowed upon them.

"I never expected any of this," he remarks. "We certainly worked towards this and we certainly tried, but nobody can ever realistically dream of things like this happening to them



"As weird and grotesque as it sounds, we've had people meet on our message board and get married. It's kind of weird and very 21st century, but it shows how it's gone beyond the band."

JADE PUGET

because there are plenty of really good bands that never get the opportunity to do what we have."

AFI's show in Edmonton sold out its original venue so quickly at Red's that it was rescheduled to the much larger Agricore, where the band played last night. Puget says he believes the band is "hugely successful now," but contends the best has yet to come. "We want to just continue doing what we're doing, growing, pushing ourselves, and getting better. We just want it to last."

Kid Koala brings musical mixology to Edmonton

Kid Koala

with Dis-P-Love, Jester and Lederhosen Luv
Thursday, 16 October
PowerPlant

JEREMY SHIRAGGE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As the old saying goes, "If you don't mind, it just doesn't matter." Case in point: if you were to ask most people whether they were anxious or troubled about the decline of their chosen profession, most would likely reply in the affirmative—but such is not the case with Eric San, aka Kid Koala, Canadian experimental scratch DJ extraordinaire. From his upbeat attitude and effervescent, talkative manner, one gets the impression that if the electronic music industry—and thus his career—were to get hoovered into a black hole tomorrow, San wouldn't give it a second thought.

"I would say in general that mainstream interest in DJ culture has dipped and I don't really care," says San over the phone from his home in Montréal.

"When I was 13 years old and started playing with turntables, it wasn't because there was any prospect of being able to travel or doing it for a semi-profession or anything like that; it was something I did because it was a fun outlet and it was a way to centre myself."

As to what motivates him to keep hitting the clubs night after night, performing his unique brand of musical mixology, San credits the open-mindedness of his audiences. "We've been lucky. Everyone who shows up for our shows seems to be up for a little bit of an audio adventure," he remarks.

"I am really stoked when people do show up and they are curious enough to check it out," he adds. "It's for those people that we always try to keep raising the bar on ourselves

to make sure we stay interested and they stay interested. You don't see [electronic music] in every fragrance ad anymore and I am perfectly fine with that."

While you won't catch him hooking any chic scents, people will still be seeing a lot of Kid Koala during his two-month, 41-performance North American and European tour in support of his second major label release, *Some Of My Best Friends Are DJs*. According to San, the new disc was never meant to be your everyday, run-of-the-mill DJ album.

"When I was 13 years old and started playing with turntables, it wasn't because there was any prospect of being able to travel or doing it for a semi-profession or anything like that; it was something I did because it was a fun outlet and it was a way to centre myself."

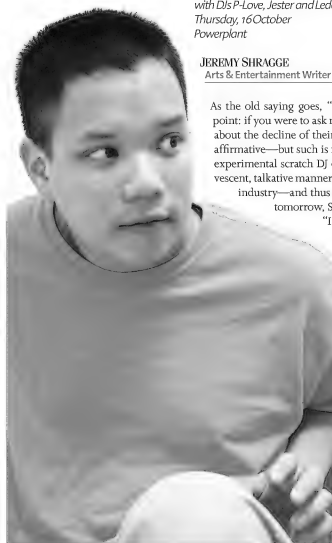
ERIC SAN (AKA KID KOALA)

"It is really about flipping the format of what you think a record could be," he explains. "For me it wasn't ever about making a 14-song album. It was always about using those segues, giving them their weight, doing the silly things, doing the melodic things, doing the melancholic things and doing the funky things. It's all in there. And the way that it travels is really about having fun with the range of what a turntable can do."

Since signing with UK electronic powerhouse Ninja Tune Records in January of '97, San has criss-crossed the globe as both a headliner and opener. On the strength of his debut release, 2001's *Carpal Tunnel Syndrome*, he crashed headlong into the North American pop-rock mainstream by opening for Radiohead on their continent wide tour—a performance San gets to repeat this week as Thom York and the lads take the stage at Toronto's cavernous Skydome.

Those who had the fortune of seeing Kid Koala that summer got to see a finely tuned, spastic routine of turntable callisthenics that was fun, funky, yet cerebral all at once. If one takes San on his word, audiences can expect this formula to be kept alive on the upcoming dates.

"We've worked really hard putting this tour together," notes San. "We're having a lot of fun with it too just because it's the tour that happens alongside the release of this record. We're trying to do a show that puts all the stuff into context a bit and having fun with the formats of things."





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The Citadel brings George Bernard Shaw play back to the future

The Arms and the Man

Starring David Marr, Larry Yachimec
Directed by Marti Maraden
Citadel Theatre
Now Playing

DAVID BERRY
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As Raina Petkoff, the female lead in George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man* points out in the first act, "real life is so seldom like that." Such is the gist of Shaw's comedy that seeks to relieve to us that the romanticized notions of war, class and love are all about fallacy.

The title character, Bluntschli (David Marr), is a Swiss mercenary fighting for the Serbian army. He is a disillusioned pragmatist that carries chocolate into battle instead of bullets. As he's escaping from the Bulgarian cavalry through the streets, he happens to hide in the house of the aforementioned Raina (Nicole Underhag), a member of one of the richest families in Bulgaria (who are quite proud of their bell for servants, their indoor staircase and of course their library, which is stocked with nearly a dozen books) and who is also the fiancée of a victorious Bulgarian officer, Sergius. As events unfold, Shaw parodies the romantic ideals we hold so dear and, with the exception of Bluntschli and the servant Nicola (Larry Yachimec), the audience learns just how false and pompous his characters are.

Now, in all fairness, this play does not carry the weight and biting social commentary it once did. Many of us have long given up the ridiculous notions of love and war that were typical of the era in which the play was written and have sunk into a world of cynicism, peering through jade-colored glasses. That being said, Shaw's comedy does hold up well given that it has been nearly 110 years since it was written.

You can credit director Marti Maraden with assembling a production team that transports us right back to a wealthy Bulgarian household in the late 19th century. You can also give her credit for the over-the-top performances by most of the cast, again with the exception of Bluntschli and Nicola. The adaptation serves Shaw's cause well, as the self-important Petkoff family and the equally grandiose Sergius are lampooned as the upper-class twits with foolish ideals that they are.

While the exaggerated style of acting does fit well with Shaw's message, that doesn't actually mean that it is enough to keep the play interesting for all three acts. One of the strongest assets *Arms and the Man* has is its juxtaposition of farcical parody and subtle, meaningful comedy. Sadly, due to a lack of attention to these subtleties, this production



TOTALLY DEAD He might be old, but Shaw is still current.

seems to drag on a bit longer than its roughly two-hour play time would have you believe.

Not to take anything away from the actors, who are all talented, but by the third act, all the breathless descriptions and overblown proclamations they make wear a little thin, and you're left hoping for a bit of sly, understated comedy. Fortunately, there are two actors who are exceptions to this fate, Gordon Rand (officer Sergius) and Larry Yachimec (the servant Nicola). They work in different ways, but both are far more successful than their outlandish counterparts.

Rand lunges and prances around the stage, making Sergius' every subtle movement into a melodramatic event in such a way that remains both funny and true-to-character throughout the play. Yachimec, on the other hand, is wonderfully restrained through the entire performance as an exasperated realist trying to keep things in order in the Petkoff household. His performance most clearly shows that if the splendid pomposity of Shaw's script would have been tempered with a little more attention to its comedic subtlety, this production would be much more than merely a decent performance of a legendary playwright's work. All things considered, it would be best if you stayed at home and saved yourself the money, lest you become even more cynical, you jaded bastards.

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SLOAN Sloan totally played Red's on Friday. Were you there? No? Loser.



Beer, garlic, sex and elephants: the most precious worldly pleasures?

The Legend of Suriyothai
Directed by Chatrichalern Yukol
Metro Cinema
17-20 October

JEREMY SHRAGGE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

A wise man once told me that there are three things in life that once can never have too much of: beer, garlic and sex. It's difficult to argue with such deep wisdom—especially with respect to the garlic. It would appear, however, that for Thai Prince and award-winning filmmaker Chatrichalern Yukol there is a fourth worldly pleasure that cannot escape inclusion in the above list. I am referring, of course, to elephants, as in, "one can never have too many elephants"—at least not when filming a martial epic set in 16th century feudal Siam.

Released in Thailand in 2001, *The Legend of Suriyothai* tells the story of one of the most celebrated characters in Thai history: Princess, and later Queen, Phra Suriyothai (played by ML Piyapass Boonrattakul). A member of the Phra Ruang dynasty, the beautiful queen of the ancient Siamese kingdom of Ayutthaya gained entry into the pantheon of Thai heroes as a result of her tragic death suffered at the hands of the invading Burmese hordes in 1548.

The film features gorgeous scenery, awe-inspiring architecture, stunning costumes, a cast of thousands, a tragic ending, regicide, infanticide, and a final, colossal battle of near-biblical proportion and incomparable historical significance. It also has war elephants. Lots of war elephants.

Executive-produced by Francis Ford Coppola, a friend of Yukol's from their days at UCLA's film school, and bankrolled by the Queen of Thailand (Yukol's own mother), *Suriyothai* is a historical epic firmly rooted in the artistic traditions of Kurosawa (*Seven Samurai*), Lean (*Lawrence of Arabia*), DeMille (*The Ten Commandments*) and Gibson (*Braveheart*).

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As the most expensive Thai movie ever made, *Suriyothai* spans nearly six decades of feudal history, took over two years to film, employed over 5000 extras, and was originally over five hours in length. Unfortunately, it is precisely due to its massive scope that the North American cut of *Suriyothai*, clocking in at just under two and a

half hours, fails to engage and hold its audience.

Suriyothai was envisioned, written, cast, costumed, choreographed and photographed to be Thailand's cinematic masterpiece, and perhaps it is; however, for North American and European audiences unfamiliar with Siamese history, its epic power becomes rapidly mired in a plot so over-reaching and so utterly convoluted that even the most attentive of cinema-goers will find it difficult to follow.

For the most part, the responsibility for this loss can be placed at the foot of the director's chair—not too far from where he was in the editing suite.

In the process of editing a 300-minute historical banquet down to a 140-minute snack, Yukol took more from *Suriyothai* than just its excessive length; he also managed to remove its heart and soul, leaving a visually stunning but ultimately hollow and tedious work of epic cinema—albeit one with heaps and heaps of elephants.

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<http://www.thesourceforym.com/teenliving/>

STEVE LILLEBUEN
Circulation Manager

So you be chillin', in yo' crib, getting yo G on wit' a fresh breezy after a bit a dank when dis baller busts in, about to flex and flossin'; on wit' his bling-bling an, all up in yo' biznezz, and you sayz, 'shut

t'at Cracker up!" He gets phat cheddar from jackson, cars and i bet wit' is chicken head! Check it, I'm Outtie 5000!

A little lost? The Teen Lingo Dictionary can help. Maintained by The Source, a Christian youth ministry, the website proclaims to give up-to-date definitions for those seeking to understand a piece of youth culture. As the website professes, "this dictionary isn't so you can talk like someone you're not." There's also a somewhat ominous warning that alerts people to the fact that teen lingo is actually representative of all the problems of today's society. The website master sites the slang as being something that perpetuates violence and sexual deviation. He also warns that the dictionary should be used under discretion to help youth workers understand the mentality of our terrible, terrible culture. But once you get past all the discretionary measures, you'll find an absolutely hilarious dictionary of slang.

Anybody with a PhD (Playa Haters Degree) should click in and read up on how to slaughter the English language. Represent and peace out, dawg.



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Coens brothers make cruelty tolerable

Intolerable Cruelty

Starring George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones
Directed by Joel and Ethan Coen
www.intolerablecruelty.com
Now playing

JASON NORMAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Love is a strange mistress, just as cruel as she is beautiful. *Intolerable Cruelty* is a film that shows us the crazy things we do for love, how love screws us, and how "love" makes some people very rich, be it financially or emotionally.

George Clooney plays Miles Massey: an über-successful, Shakespeare-quoting, dental hygiene-obsessed divorce attorney who becomes smitten with perpetually-divorced ice-queen/sex-goddess Marilyn Roxroth (Catherine Zeta-Jones). After swindling Roxroth for millions in a divorce settlement Massey negotiated for one of his clients, he decides to make her his next conquest. Trouble arises, however, when the gold-digging Roxroth moves in for her suitor's fortune and, in an odd twist, Massey attempts to show her the finer virtues of true love.

It seems like your average meat 'n' potatoes kind of romantic comedy, but once you throw in heroic producer

Brian Grazer (*Liar Liar*, *8 Mile*) and genius filmmakers the Coen brothers' the film gets spiced up. Add an asthmatic hit man, a clichéd rich Texas oil tycoon, hilarious performances from Clooney and the saucy Zeta-Jones, and you've got a highly credible and, more importantly, piss-your-pants-funny comedy.

The brothers' signature is all over the film. They improve upon the standard Hollywood romance formula with bizarre but layered characters, witty, rapid-fire banter and a plot that doesn't insult the viewer's intelligence. The comic insanity in the various wedding and courtroom scenes are the Coens at their best. More importantly, however, the "romantic" in "romantic comedy" works because of an undeniable chemistry between Zeta-Jones and Clooney as two professionals unable to resist the reputation-destroying pull of mutual affection.

Joel and Ethan Coen are just like the 3M Corporation: they didn't invent movies, they just make them better. They've covered everything from the Irish mafia to stoned bowlers turned private detectives and now (suspenseful pause) a love story, with the obligatory Coen twist, of course. So get out and see this film, and what the heck, bring a date, see what happens. You'll definitely look at each other differently on the way out.



Hot Little Rocket

Our Work And Why We Do It
Catch and Release
www.catch-and-release.org

ADAM ROZENHART
Managing Editor

I have an embarrassing confession to make: I never wanted to review this CD. When I heard the band's name called out, I heard "Hot Hot Heat," not "Hot Little Rocket." So, I dithered—I hemmed and hawed—over reviewing this disc. Man, it's a good thing I finally bit the bullet.

Boasting a powerfully full sound, Hot Little Rocket's latest album provides listeners with a guitar-laden guide to the band's work and why they do it. This album marks the third release for this Calgary quartet, and though they don't blare with the same punk-driven mayhem as, say, Hot Hot Heat, Hot Little Rocket will convert many to their fold with this record.

The bizarre vocals of Andrew Wedderburn—which are reminiscent of the strangely-pitched singer of the Bouncing Souls—combined with a mature-yet-youthful hard rock punch make *Our Work And Why We Do It* an attention-grabbing release.

The album isn't without a problem, though. The band's choice for the final track, called "Tonight," falls flat and leaves one wondering why such an obviously talented band would choose to end on such a clearly unmemorable note. Still, the rest of *Our Work And Why We Do It* is a powerful listen; there's nothing small about these Hot Little Rockets. Their sound creates a wall of sound big enough to entertain even the choicest of listeners.



Boy

Self-titled
Burnstead Recording Company
www.speedboatrecords.net

LEAH COLLINS
Features Editor

Has Blur front-man Damon Albarn taken his love of side-projects (Gorillaz, Mali Music) to the max? Has he appropriated the identity of a 21-year-old Yukonite named Stephen Noel (aka Boy), to release an eleven track disc of Brit-pop awesomeness? No—no, he hasn't. But, listening to Boy's self-titled album, such a scenario doesn't seem too far off.

Seriously, Boy is his own man. He just happens to sound like an amalgam of all your favorite British rock acts right down to the pretentious drawing accent. And though Boy seems highly impressive, at least it sounds as though his musical company has had a good effect on him.

Influenced by the newer school (Blur, Oasis, Supersmash) and the old-timer (Beatles, Bowie) are all there. On tracks such as "French Diplomacy" and "Rose-Marie's Café," he temporarily breaks out of Blighty to offer a wistful Rufus Wainwright impression. All the while plugging along with whimsical glummy guitars and the occasional subtle psychedelic soundscape.

The lads' got a definite talent for witty lyrics and engaging and original melodies. So much so that Boy, despite his relative whippersnapper, could definitely stand to roughhouse with the bigger kids on the Brit pop landscape.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Martin Tielli

Sidetrack Café
Saturday, 18 October

If you don't know who the Rheostatics are, you are missing out on some of the most beautifully constructed independent Canadian pop music ever constructed. If you do know who the Rheostatics are, then you are probably familiar with the ethereal guitar work of Martin Tielli.

Although he's back in his band, Operation Infinite Justice, for this tour, he's going at it under his own name. Tielli might be exploring life outside his long-time band, but don't expect the veteran musician to suddenly morph into some kind of glam rock star—his solo projects still bring an acoustic bend to his style. This should be just the kind of show that you can use to show your girlfriend that you're both intelligent and sensitive.

Comfortably Numb...The Pink Floyd Experience

Jubilee Auditorium
Thursday, 16 October



Boasting 20 tons of audio equipment, enough lighting gear to give any epileptic kid a serious case of the seizures, and a giant floating pig, The Pink Floyd Experience promises to be the next-best thing to seeing the real Pink Floyd.

The San Diego-based Floyd fanatics behind the production have promised to "rattle rib cages" and pull off a stadium-sized show in the modestly-sized Jubilee. While they can't possibly be expected to create the spectacle Pink Floyd was famous for, the tribute act looks poised to put on an entertaining show nonetheless.

Horns and Holes

Directed by Michael Galinsky
and Suki Hawley
Metro Cinema
17-19 October

Isn't it amazing that there are certain people in this world who can make a book just disappear? That's pretty much what happened with *Fortunate Son*, the first published biography of now-President George W. Bush. When its original publisher found out the book's author, JH Hatfield, was a convicted felon, they pulled it from the shelves and though it had reached number eight on Amazon.com's bestseller list, it seemed it was about to vanish forever.

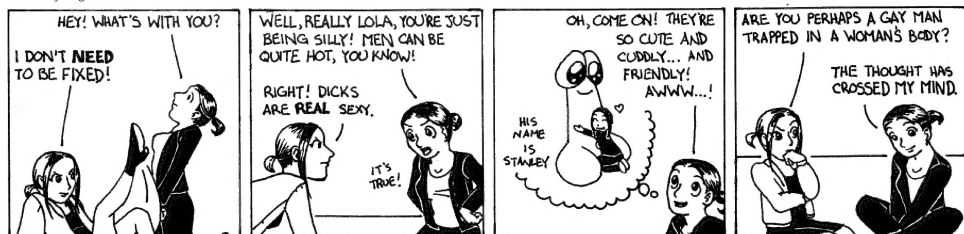
But when publisher Soft Skull Press picked up the book, they found that it was harder to get back out there than they thought. Why? Because the book alleged that in 1972 the young GWB was arrested for cocaine possession, a charge which Big Daddy Bush helped to remove from his records. But despite its subject's subject, this documentary is more about the struggle of free press in a time of big power than the evil Bushes specifically. And in this day and age of ebbing and flowing political liberty, that's a really big deal.

ERIKA THORKELOSON AND
HEATHER ADLER
Arts & Entertainment Princesses

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THREE LINES FOR A TOONIE

Is there, in darts, no beauty? Biz Dir: 24-16
Holy shit that new Russel Crowe movie looks rad!! - H Hornblower
3-o'clocks, Matty you might have nudged me in the first round, but I went undefeated afterwards. I only have one thing to say: Ya'll Gunna Make Me Lose My MIND! Up In Here! Up In Here!

So I was wondering: What is that music that plays during the Canadian Armed Forces Recruitment Ads? You know the ones that they played like a year and a half ago and now are playing again. The music is like: "Wa, wawawa, wawawwa WAAA AAI Wa Wa WIA" Anyone know? email production@gateway.ualberta.ca
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